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# Calibrated Tully–Fisher relations for improved estimates of disc rotation velocities

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## ABSTRACT

In this paper, we derive scaling relations between photometric observable quantities and disc galaxy rotation velocity  $V_{\text{rot}}$  or Tully–Fisher relations (TFRs). Our methodology is dictated by our purpose of obtaining purely photometric, minimal-scatter estimators of  $V_{\text{rot}}$  applicable to large galaxy samples from imaging surveys. To achieve this goal, we have constructed a sample of 189 disc galaxies at redshifts  $z < 0.1$  with long-slit H $\alpha$  spectroscopy from Pizagno et al. and new observations. By construction, this sample is a fair subsample of a large, well-defined parent disc sample of  $\sim 170\,000$  galaxies selected from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey Data Release 7 (SDSS DR7). The optimal photometric estimator of  $V_{\text{rot}}$  we find is stellar mass  $M_{\star}$  from Bell et al., based on the linear combination of a luminosity and a colour. Assuming a Kroupa initial mass function (IMF), we find:  $\log [V_{80}/(\text{km s}^{-1})] = (2.142 \pm 0.004) + (0.278 \pm 0.010)[\log (M_{\star}/M_{\odot}) - 10.10]$ , where  $V_{80}$  is the rotation velocity measured at the radius  $R_{80}$  containing 80 per cent of the  $i$ -band galaxy light. This relation has an intrinsic Gaussian scatter  $\tilde{\sigma} = 0.036 \pm 0.005$  dex and a measured scatter  $\sigma_{\text{meas}} = 0.056$  dex in  $\log V_{80}$ . For a fixed IMF, we find that the dynamical-to-stellar mass ratios within  $R_{80}$ ,  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})(R_{80})$ , decrease from approximately 10 to 3, as stellar mass increases from  $M_{\star} \approx 10^9$  to  $10^{11} M_{\odot}$ . At a fixed stellar mass,  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})(R_{80})$  increases with disc size, so that it correlates more tightly with stellar surface density than with stellar mass or disc size alone. We interpret the observed variation in  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})(R_{80})$  with disc size as a reflection of the fact that disc size dictates the radius at which  $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star}$  is measured, and consequently, the fraction of the dark matter ‘seen’ by the gas at that radius. For the lowest  $M_{\star}$  galaxies, we find a positive correlation between TFR residuals and disc sizes, indicating that the total density profile is dominated by dark matter on these scales. For the highest  $M_{\star}$  galaxies, we find instead a weak negative correlation, indicating a larger contribution of stars to the total density profile. This change in the sense of the correlation (from positive to negative) is consistent with the decreasing trend in  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})(R_{80})$  with stellar mass. In future work, we will use these results to study disc galaxy formation and evolution and perform a fair, statistical analysis of the dynamics and masses of a photometrically selected sample of disc galaxies.

**Key words:** galaxies: kinematics and dynamics – galaxies: spiral.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

In the standard cold dark matter (CDM)-based model for disc galaxy formation, gas cools out of a hot gaseous halo, maintaining its specific angular momentum, and forms a disc at the centre of the potential well of a dark matter (DM) halo (Fall & Efstathiou 1980).

Although the basic picture has long been in place, a variety of physical processes underlying galaxy formation (such as star formation, feedback, angular momentum transfer, and mergers) are still poorly understood.

It is thought that scaling relations between halo properties (e.g. halo mass and circular velocity) translate into scaling relations between observed galaxy properties (e.g. stellar mass and disc rotation velocity). In detail, however, what one expects for the final relations (including the slope, zero-point, and scatter) depends on still uncertain aspects of galaxy formation.

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Therefore, observed scaling relations for disc galaxies are expected to provide strong constraints on galaxy formation scenarios. In particular, the well-established relation between disc rotation velocity and galaxy luminosity (Tully & Fisher 1977) is arguably surprisingly tight, and hence, deserves special attention. In this work, we refer to scaling relations between disc rotation velocity and various galaxy properties (such as luminosity and stellar mass) generally as Tully–Fisher relations (TFRs). The purpose of studying these scaling relations has changed over the years, and the philosophy of sample selection and calibration has varied accordingly.

Originally, TFRs were used to determine galaxy distances and measure deviations from the cosmic flow (e.g. Tully & Fisher 1977; Strauss & Willick 1995; Giovanelli et al. 1997; Courteau et al. 2000; Masters et al. 2006; Springob et al. 2009). Accordingly, galaxy samples were pruned on the basis of morphological type to minimize the scatter in the relation and ensure the smallest possible error in magnitude and distance.

More recently, TFRs have been derived from galaxy samples including a broad range of morphological types (e.g. Courteau et al. 2007; Pizagno et al. 2007, hereafter P07) for the purpose of testing galaxy formation and evolution models (e.g. Dalcanton, Spergel & Summers 1997; Mo, Mao & White 1998; Dutton et al. 2007; Gnedin et al. 2007). These TFR studies attempt to constrain the theoretical models, e.g., by quantifying, rather than minimizing, the scatter in the TFR.

A third application of TFRs is connecting disc galaxies with their DM haloes through dynamics (e.g. Dutton et al. 2010; Trujillo-Gomez et al. 2010). Because long-slit spectroscopy is more expensive than imaging, one can exploit existing large imaging data sets by using TFRs to provide photometric estimates of disc rotation velocities  $V_{\text{rot}}$ . Unlike previous TFR studies, we tailor our sample selection and calibration explicitly for this purpose. We consider several different photometric quantities  $\mathcal{O}$  – including absolute magnitudes, synthetic magnitudes, stellar mass estimates and baryonic mass estimates – to determine the one that yields the tightest relation with  $V_{\text{rot}}$ , and hence, is the optimal estimator of  $V_{\text{rot}}$ .

In a future paper, we will combine results from this optimal TFR with weak-lensing measurements to constrain the ratio of rotation velocities at the optical and virial radii,  $V_{\text{rot}}/V_{\text{vir}}$ . To avoid sample selection issues, we want to use the same sample (or in practice, similarly defined) samples for the two analyses. The ratio  $V_{\text{rot}}/V_{\text{vir}}$  provides a direct measurement of the slope of the total (dark + baryonic) mass profile within the virial radius. Measurement of  $V_{\text{rot}}/V_{\text{vir}}$  can thus constrain the halo structure and indicate whether baryons have significantly modified the halo potential well (Seljak 2002; Dutton et al. 2007).

Seljak (2002) combined early TFR and weak-lensing measurements and inferred  $V_{\text{rot}}/V_{\text{vir}} = 1.8$  with a  $2\sigma$  lower limit of 1.4, for  $L^*$  late-type galaxies. They found this result to be consistent with the prediction of a model with adiabatic contraction of the DM halo due to baryonic infall as described in Blumenthal et al. (1986). More recently, Dutton et al. (2010) combined the TFR from P07 with halo mass measurements from different techniques (including weak lensing and satellite kinematics) and found  $V_{\text{rot}}/V_{\text{vir}} \simeq 1$ , for disc galaxies with stellar masses  $10^{9.4}–10^{11.5} h^{-2} M_{\odot}$ . We aim to improve upon these measurements by carefully combining results from our TFR sample with weak-lensing measurements on a similarly selected lens galaxy sample, leading to a result that is not as severely affected by systematic effects due to differences in sample selection, among others.

We take advantage of the large, homogeneous data set from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS; York et al. 2000) with well-defined

photometry and available fibre spectroscopy. For the stacked weak-lensing analysis, we will use a lens sample of  $\sim 10^5$  disc galaxies at redshifts  $z < 0.1$ ; this is large enough to obtain decent signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) measurements. For the TFR analysis, we use a fair subsample of the lens sample, spanning the region in the parameter space of luminosity, galaxy colour and size that the lens sample occupies. Our TFR sample consists of a set of galaxies with existing rotation curve measurements from P07, augmented by a comparable number of galaxies for which we have obtained new rotation curve measurements. By construction, our TFR sample matches the stellar mass function (SMF) of the parent disc sample and extends out to the same maximum redshift of 0.1 (unlike that used in P07).

In addition to determining the slope, zero-point, and scatter in the TFR, we also study the residuals from the TFR, and their correlation with other galaxy properties, such as disc size. Courteau & Rix (1999) argued that the lack of correlation between TFR residuals and disc size indicates that stars do not dominate the potential well in the optical regions of disc galaxies (but also see Dutton et al. 2007). Both Courteau et al. (2007) and P07 confirmed the lack of residual correlations in their galaxy samples. In this work, we go one step further and investigate residual correlations within different bins in stellar mass.

We also constrain the ratio of dynamical to stellar masses within the optical radius of disc galaxies,  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})(R_{\text{opt}})$ . We measure  $M_{\text{dyn}}(R_{\text{opt}})$  directly from the rotation velocity measurements, and infer  $M_{\star}$  from photometric estimates based on galaxy luminosity and colour (Bell et al. 2003).

This paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we describe previously existing data used in this work from SDSS (Section 2.1) and from P07 measurements (Section 2.2). In Section 3, we describe our sample selection. In the next three sections, we describe our derivation of the photometric and kinematic quantities used in the TFRs. In Section 4, we describe the bulge–disc decomposition fits from which we obtain disc parameters, such as the disc size and axial ratio. In Section 5, we define the photometric quantities  $\mathcal{O}$  that we consider as estimators of disc rotation velocity. In Section 6, we describe the steps in the derivation of the kinematic quantities  $V_{\text{rot}}$  from the long-slit spectroscopy observations. In Section 6.5, we check for various systematic effects that may be affecting these measurements.

In the next three sections, we analyse trends in these data. In Section 7, we describe the modelling, fitting and interpretation of the TFRs. In Section 8, we present calibrated TFRs for the different photometric quantities considered. In Section 9, we present alternative fits to the TFRs. In Section 10, we study correlations between residuals from the TFR and galaxy properties, such as disc axial ratio, galaxy colour and disc size. In Section 11, we calculate the dynamical-to-stellar mass ratios within the optical radius of the galaxies, and study its correlations with stellar mass, disc size and stellar surface density. Finally, we summarize and discuss our main results in Section 12.

Throughout we adopt a cosmology with  $\Omega_m = 0.3$ ,  $\Omega_{\Lambda} = 0.7$  and  $h \equiv H/(100 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}) = 0.7$ , and express all lengths in physical (not comoving) coordinates.

## 2 PREVIOUSLY EXISTING DATA

We use publicly available data from the SDSS and augment long-slit spectroscopy data obtained by P07 with a set of new observations (described in Section 6.1). In Section 2.1, we describe SDSS imaging and spectroscopy, and define the SDSS photometric quantities

used throughout this work. Then, in Section 2.2, we describe the sample and long-slit spectroscopy data of P07.

## 2.1 SDSS data

The seventh SDSS data release (DR7; Abazajian 2009) marks the completion of the SDSS-II phase of the survey and includes 11 663 deg<sup>2</sup> of imaging data, and over 9380 deg<sup>2</sup> of spectroscopy. The imaging was carried out by drift-scanning the sky in photometric conditions (Hogg et al. 2001; Ivezić et al. 2004), in five bands ( $u, g, r, i, z$ ) (Fukugita et al. 1996; Smith et al. 2002) using a specially designed wide-field camera (Gunn et al. 1998). All of these data were processed by automated pipelines that detect and measure photometric properties of sources and astrometrically calibrate the data (Lupton et al. 2001; Pier et al. 2003; Tucker et al. 2006).

Objects are targeted for spectroscopy using the imaging data (Blanton et al. 2003). Main galaxy sample targets are selected as described by Strauss et al. (2002). The main galaxy sample target selection includes a Petrosian (1976) apparent magnitude cut of  $r_p = 17.77$  mag, with slight variation in this cut across the survey area. Targets are observed with a 640-fibre spectrograph on the same telescope (Gunn et al. 2006). These spectra are obtained through diameter fibres of 3 arcsec. In this work, SDSS fibre spectra are used only for sample selection (Section 3.1); the extraction of kinematic information from these spectra will be explored in future work.

In this work, we selected galaxy samples from the SDSS DR7 NYU-Value Added Galaxy Catalog (NYU-VAGC; Blanton et al. 2005). The selection criteria for inclusion of the VAGC is very similar to that for the main galaxy sample. The imaging reductions used is a recent version, v5\_4 (described in Abazajian 2004). The photometric calibration used is ‘uber-calibration’, which utilizes overlaps of SDSS runs to obtain a more consistent large-scale photometric calibration of the survey (Padmanabhan et al. 2008).

We derive photometric quantities based on measurements from the SDSS imaging pipeline. These measurements include Petrosian and model apparent magnitudes, Petrosian half-light radii  $R_{50}$  and isophotal axial ratios  $q_{iso}$ . We note that both  $R_{50}$  and  $q_{iso}$  are not corrected for seeing  $q_{iso} \equiv b_{25}/a_{25}$  or  $ISO\_B/ISO\_A$  are measured at an isophote of 25 mag arcsec<sup>-2</sup>. They provide a measure of the galaxy shape in its outer regions<sup>1</sup> and therefore a good initial estimate of disc axial ratios.<sup>2</sup> We only use isophotal axial ratios for sample selection (cf. Section 3.2) and use seeing-corrected estimates of disc axial ratios and sizes from two-dimensional bulge-disc decompositions (described in Section 4) for the TFR analysis, in particular, for deriving inclination corrections to the rotation velocities.

Absolute magnitudes are based on Petrosian apparent magnitudes, defined in Strauss et al. (2002), following the original proposal by Petrosian (1976). The essential feature of Petrosian magnitudes is that in the absence of seeing, they measure a constant fraction of a galaxy’s light regardless of distance (or size).

Galaxy colours are based on model apparent magnitudes, described in Stoughton et al. (2002) and Abazajian (2004). These magnitudes are based on fitting the two-dimensional point spread function (PSF)-convolved galaxy image with either a pure deVaucouleurs or a pure exponential profile, depending on which model

has a higher likelihood based on the  $r$ -band galaxy image. The fits to the other bands use the same model parameters – size, axial ratio and position angle (PA) – as in the  $r$ -band galaxy image, to get stable colours.

We correct both absolute magnitudes and colours for Galactic extinction using the dust maps of Schlegel, Finkbeiner & Davis (1998), internal extinction (as described in Section 5.1) and  $k$ -corrections to  $z = 0$  using the KCORRECT product version v4\_1\_4 of Blanton & Roweis (2007).<sup>3</sup> We denote absolute magnitudes and colours that have not been corrected for internal extinction with the superscript ‘NC’, e.g.  $M_r^{NC}$ ,  $M_i^{NC}$ ,  $(g - r)^{NC}$ . We reserve symbols without superscripts for quantities that have been corrected for internal extinction.

In addition to these photometric quantities from the SDSS photometric pipeline, we also use Sérsic (1968) indices  $n_s$  provided with the NYU-VAGC, determined from radial profile fits performed by Blanton et al. (2005).

## 2.2 P07 data

P07 selected 234 target galaxies from the SDSS DR2 main galaxy sample with redshifts  $z < 0.05$ , absolute magnitudes  $-22 < M_r^{NC} < -18.5$  and  $r$ -band isophotal axial ratios smaller than 0.6. In addition, they imposed an absolute magnitude-dependent upper limit on redshift, so that the galaxies in their sample have apparent half-light radii larger than 2 arcsec. In this work, we use a different set of selection criteria to define a disc galaxy sample (see Section 3.1).

P07 observations were carried out at the Calar Alto Observatory using the TWIN spectrograph mounted on the 3.5-m telescope with 1200 lines mm<sup>-1</sup> grating, 6200–7300 Å spectral coverage, and 1.5 arcsec slitwidth, and at the MDM Observatory using the CCDs spectrograph mounted on the 2.4-m Hiltner telescope with 600 lines mm<sup>-1</sup> grating, 6500–6994 Å spectral coverage, and 2 arcsec slitwidth. Integration times per galaxy vary from 1200 s for bright galaxies to three exposures of 1200 s for faint galaxies. We refer the reader to the original paper for further details about the long-slit spectroscopy observations and data reduction.

P07 obtained usable H $\alpha$  rotation curves for 162 out of their 234 target galaxies (69 per cent); the other 72 targets had insufficient H $\alpha$  line emission for obtaining rotation curves. Out of these 162 galaxies, we found that four were flagged for redshift measurement warnings and one is not included in the NYU-VAGC. Out of the remaining 157 galaxies (hereafter referred to as the ‘P07 galaxy sample’), 99 pass our sample selection criteria (described in Section 3.1) and are included in our analysis. For these galaxies, we re-processed the long-slit spectroscopy data obtained by P07 with the same pipeline used for data from our new observations.

## 3 SAMPLE SELECTION

As motivated in Section 1, we define two disc galaxy samples—(i) a *parent* disc sample of 169 563 galaxies, large enough to allow stacked weak-lensing analysis, as well as detailed statistical analysis of galaxy properties and (ii) a *child* disc sample of 189 galaxies, a subsample of the parent disc sample with measured rotation curves for kinematic analysis.

<sup>1</sup> The semimajor axis of the 25 mag arcsec<sup>-2</sup> isophote  $a_{25}$  is around 2 to 3 times the effective radius of the galaxy (Ryden 2004).

<sup>2</sup> In contrast, axial ratios from SDSS model fits are corrected for seeing, but are more severely affected by the light from the bulge than isophotal axial ratios.

<sup>3</sup> In other words, galaxy colours  $g - r \equiv M_{mod,g} - M_{mod,r}$ , where  $M_{mod,g}$  and  $M_{mod,r}$  are the  $g$  and  $r$ -band model absolute magnitudes corrected for both Galactic and internal extinction and  $k$ -corrected to  $z = 0$ , respectively.



Insofar as this child disc sample is a fair subsample of the parent disc sample, results derived from it can be applied to the larger sample. Thus, we have made an effort to construct a child disc sample that spans the parameter space of galaxy properties—colour, physical size and galaxy type—covered by the parent disc sample. Our child disc sample is composed of 99 galaxies from the P07 galaxy sample (see Section 2.2) and 90 galaxies for which we acquired new long-slit spectra, totalling 189 galaxies with  $H\alpha$  rotation curves.

We describe the selection criteria used to define the parent disc sample in Section 3.1. We describe the construction of the child disc sample in Section 3.2. Finally, we show that the distributions of galaxy properties are the same for the two samples in Section 3.3.

### 3.1 Parent disc sample

We define the parent disc sample to be a large sample of nearby, star-forming, disc galaxies from the SDSS, appropriate for weak-lensing and detailed statistical analysis. Galaxy colour and Sérsic index are often used in the literature to select disc galaxies, but applying such cuts needlessly excludes a significant population of disc galaxies (Maller et al. 2009). Thus, we do not apply any cuts on galaxy colour and apply only a conservative cut on the Sérsic index.

To select star-forming galaxies, we primarily rely on the  $H\alpha$  emission-line strength observed through the SDSS fibre as a marker of star formation.<sup>4</sup> Thus, we explicitly select galaxies that are likely to have sufficient  $H\alpha$  emission for obtaining rotation curves. As a consequence, gas-poor S0s will be excluded automatically. This selection enabled us to efficiently use our observing time and obtain usable rotation curves for all of our targets (compared to only 69 per cent of targets for P07).

We select the parent disc sample from the SDSS DR7 NYU-VAGC described in Section 2.1. To clean the sample, we exclude candidate objects that have spectroscopic redshift measurement warnings (0.8 per cent) and those that are not spectroscopically confirmed as having class ‘galaxy’ (2.5 per cent). This selection yields a total of 686 656 galaxies.

We then apply the following selection criteria:

- (i)  $0.02 < z < 0.10$ ,
- (ii)  $-22.5 < M_r^{\text{NC}} < -18.0$ ,
- (iii)  $f_{\text{obs}}(H\alpha) > 2 \times 10^{-16} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ,
- (iv)  $0.5 < n_s < 5.9$  and  $n_s < 1.7 - (M_r + 18.0)$  and
- (v)  $\log\left(\frac{[\text{O III}]\lambda 5007}{H\beta}\right) < \frac{0.61}{\log([\text{N II}]\lambda 6583/H\alpha) - 0.47} + 1.19$ ,

where  $z$  is the galaxy redshift,  $M_r^{\text{NC}}$  is the  $r$ -band absolute magnitude corrected for Galactic extinction and  $k$ -corrected to  $z = 0$  (but not corrected for internal extinction),  $f_{\text{obs}}(H\alpha)$  is the observed  $H\alpha$  emission-line flux through the SDSS spectroscopic fibre and  $n_s$  is the  $i$ -band Sérsic index determined by Blanton et al. (2005). The final cut removes galaxies with active nuclei [active galactic nuclei (AGNs)] and is based on the ratio of high- to low-ionization emission-line fluxes, as measured through the SDSS fibre. We describe each of these cuts in detail below.

(i) *Redshift cut.* We apply a lower limit on redshift that ensures that the uncertainty in the absolute magnitude due to peculiar velocities ( $\approx 300 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ) is no larger than  $5\log(1 + 300/6000) =$

0.11 mag. We also note that galaxies with  $z < 0.02$  are not very useful for weak lensing because they would have negligible tangential shear compared to lens galaxies at higher redshifts.

The maximum redshift of 0.1 is a practical choice given the angular resolution required to obtain resolved rotation curves, as well as the need to obtain long-slit spectroscopic observations for the child disc sample within a reasonable time. After applying this cut, a total of 327 027 candidates remain.

(ii) *Absolute magnitude cut.* Following P07, the bright-end cut at  $M_r^{\text{NC}} = -22.5$  mag excludes many non-star-forming (i.e. elliptical) galaxies that may contaminate the sample. This cut removes 10 852 candidates or 3.3 per cent of those from (i).

(iii)  *$H\alpha$  flux cut.* We apply a lower limit on the  $H\alpha$  emission-line flux observed through the SDSS spectroscopic fibre. We measure the  $H\alpha$  flux,  $f_{\text{obs}}(H\alpha)$ , by simultaneously fitting a set of three Gaussians plus a linear continuum to the  $H\alpha$  and [N II] 6548, 6583 lines (with the ratio of [N II] 6548 to [N II] 6583 flux fixed to 1:3 and all linewidths required to be equal).

We choose the lower limit to be the value that roughly divides the bimodal distribution in  $H\alpha$  flux formed by the non-star-forming and star-forming galaxy populations. This cut removes 37 per cent of candidates from (ii), leaving a total of 198 769 galaxies.

We note that this cut introduces some redshift dependence. Since for nearby galaxies, the SDSS fibre is only sensitive to the central regions, some star-forming galaxies with extended  $H\alpha$  emission but suppressed central  $H\alpha$  emission would be rejected.

(iv) *Sérsic index cut.* We apply a conservative upper limit on the  $i$ -band Sérsic index that depends on absolute magnitude. This cut closely approximates the 90th percentile  $n_s$  values at each  $M_r^{\text{NC}}$  (increasing linearly from 2.2 at  $-18.5$  mag to 5.7 at  $-22.0$  mag). We also restrict to galaxies with  $0.5 < n_s < 5.9$  to ensure that the fits are not at the limits of the allowed parameter space,  $n_s \in [0.5, 6.0]$ . This cut removes 10 019 candidates or 5 per cent of those from (iii).

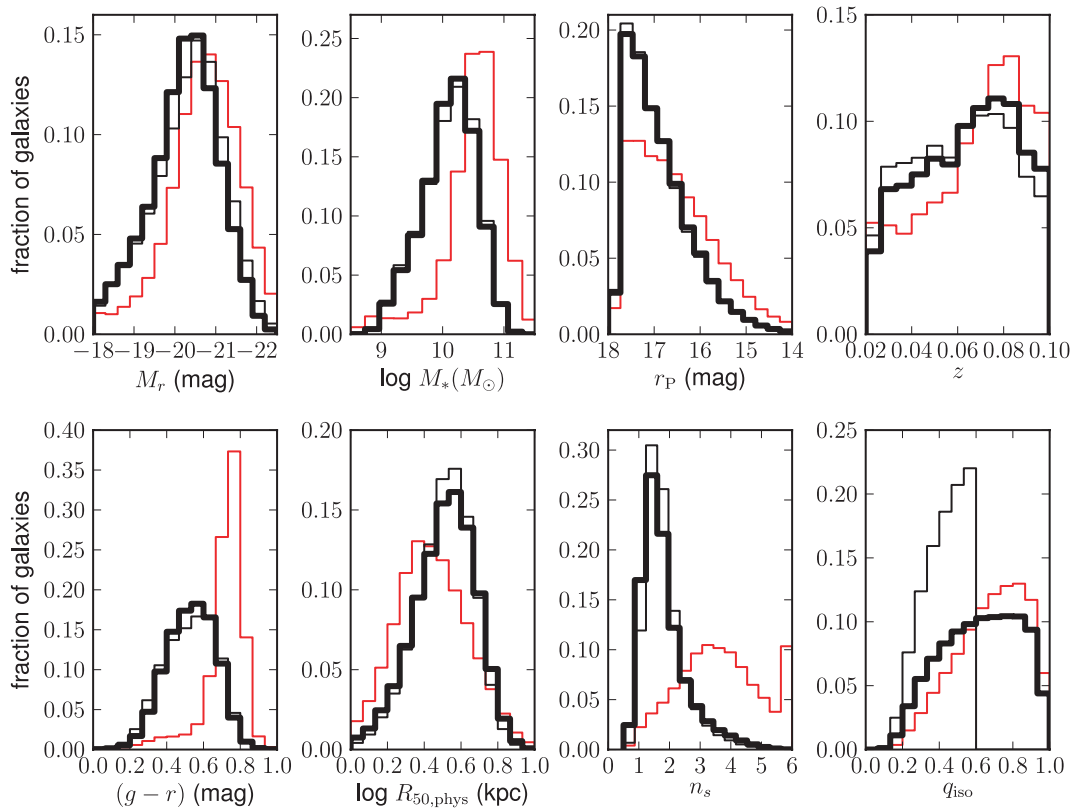
(v) *AGN removal cut.* It is important to exclude active galaxies (AGN) from our sample to ensure that most or all of the observed  $H\alpha$  emission comes from the disc, rather than from the central engine, and can thus reliably trace the rotation of the disc. We use a standard diagnostic emission-line ratio diagram (Baldwin, Phillips & Terlevich 1981) and apply the theoretical emission-line ratio cut of Kewley et al. (2001) to classify the AGN. This cut is more conservative (removes fewer galaxies) than the empirical cut of that given by Kauffmann et al. (2003). In line with being conservative, we only exclude galaxies that have  $S/N > 1$  on all six emission lines. This final cut removes 10 per cent of candidates from (iv),<sup>5</sup> and yields our parent disc sample with 169 563 galaxies.

To measure the emission-line fluxes, we first subtract a best-fitting stellar continuum from the SDSS spectrum, following the procedure of Hao et al. (2005). We then perform a Gaussian fit to the continuum-subtracted spectrum similar to the procedure described above to measure the  $H\alpha$  flux. We repeat the process to measure the  $H\beta$  and [O III] 4959, 5007 lines (with the ratio of [O III] 4959 to [O III] 5007 flux fixed to 1:3).

We have not applied an axial ratio cut to the parent disc sample, but we require  $r$ -band isophotal axial ratios  $q_{\text{iso}} < 0.6$  on the child disc sample, following P07, to allow accurate inclination corrections

<sup>4</sup> The 3'' SDSS fibres probe the integrated light from the central regions of nearby galaxies (at redshifts of 0.02, 0.07, and 0.10, the fibre covers the central 1.2, 4.0, and 5.6 kpc, respectively).

<sup>5</sup> This is a reasonable fraction of AGN for a sample of emission-line galaxies. Out of  $\sim 10^5$  SDSS galaxies, Brinchmann et al. (2004) classified 68.4 per cent as emission-line galaxies, and 10.4 per cent of those as AGN.



**Figure 1.** Distribution of basic properties of galaxies in the parent disc sample (thick black histograms; 169 563 galaxies), those in the parent disc sample with isophotal axial ratios  $q_{\text{iso}} < 0.6$  (thin black histograms; 75 668 galaxies), and those galaxies that satisfy the redshift cut (i) but were excluded from the parent disc sample by the rest of the selection criteria (red histograms; 157 464 galaxies). Upper panels show absolute magnitudes  $M_r$ , stellar masses  $M_*$ , Petrosian apparent magnitudes  $r_p$ , and redshifts  $z$ . Lower panels show  $g - r$  colours, physical Petrosian half-light radii  $R_{50,\text{phys}}$ , Sérsic indices  $n_s$ , and isophotal axial ratios  $q_{\text{iso}}$ .

to the galaxy rotation velocities. This cut is satisfied by 45 per cent of the parent disc sample or 75 668 galaxies.

Fig. 1 shows the distributions of galaxy properties for the parent disc sample galaxies (all galaxies and those with  $q_{\text{iso}} < 0.6$  are shown in thick and thin black histograms, respectively). Also shown are the distributions for galaxies that satisfy the redshift cut (i) but were excluded by the rest of the selection criteria (red histograms). Panels show the following galaxy properties: absolute magnitude  $M_r$ , stellar mass  $M_*$ , Petrosian apparent magnitude  $r_p$ , redshift  $z$ ,  $g - r$  colour, physical  $i$ -band Petrosian half-light radius  $R_{50,\text{phys}}$ ,  $i$ -band Sérsic index  $n_s$  and  $r$ -band isophotal axial ratio  $q_{\text{iso}}$ . Stellar masses,  $M_*$ , correspond to the Kroupa (2002) initial mass function (IMF) and were determined from  $i$ -band absolute magnitudes and  $g - r$  colours, using stellar mass-to-light ratio estimates from Bell et al. (2003), as described in Section 5.4.1. The other photometric quantities were defined in Section 2.1.

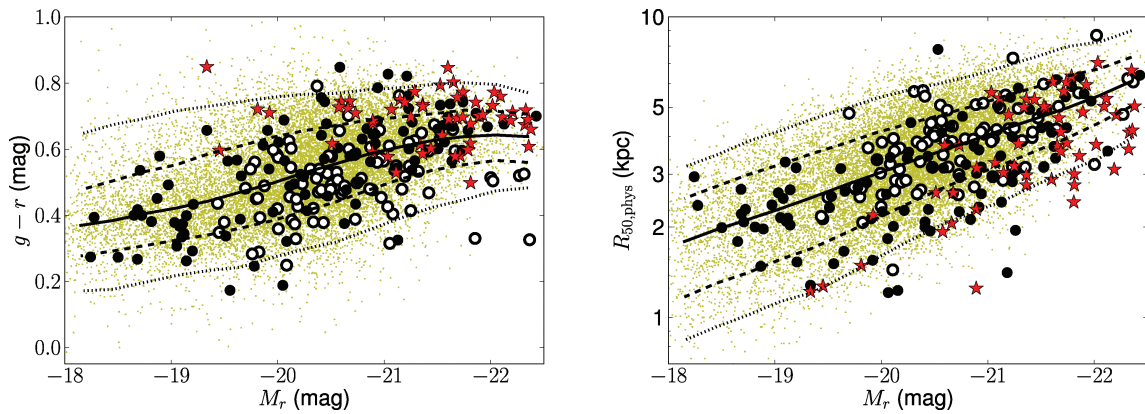
The distributions in  $g - r$  and  $n_s$  indicate that our selection criteria have successfully excluded the population of non-star-forming (elliptical) galaxies, which constitute the red peak in  $g - r$  colour at  $\sim 0.75$  mag and the broad bump of high Sérsic indices around  $n_s \sim 3.5$  (see red histograms in Fig. 1 for the excluded galaxies). Recall that our selection relies primarily on the presence of the  $\text{H}\alpha$  line emission and does not impose any strict cuts in either colour or Sérsic index.

### 3.2 Child disc sample

We aim to construct a child disc sample that is a fair subsample of the parent disc sample for use in our kinematic analysis. By combining existing data from P07 with newly acquired observations, we have constructed a child disc sample of 189 disc galaxies with usable  $\text{H}\alpha$  rotation curves.

Of the 157 galaxies in the P07 galaxy sample, 99 pass our selection criteria (in Section 3.1) and are included in the child disc sample. Of the 58 rejected galaxies, three failed due to the absolute magnitude cut, 17 due to the  $\text{H}\alpha$  flux cut, 11 due to the Sérsic index cut and 27 due to the AGN cut. The AGN fraction of 17 per cent is larger than the overall fraction of 10 per cent [cf. criterion (v) in Section 3.1]. This may be attributed to the tendency for galaxies in the P07 sample to be of earlier type, and therefore more likely to host the AGN (Bundy et al. 2008, but see also Xue et al. 2010).

The other 90 galaxies in the child disc sample have been selected from the parent disc sample to fill in regions of the parameter space in luminosity, colour and size that were not well covered by the existing data set (see Fig. 2). We require these galaxies to have  $r$ -band isophotal axial ratios  $q_{\text{iso}} < 0.6$ , following P07, to avoid large inclination corrections to the rotation velocities. We have targeted and acquired long-slit observations of these galaxies, as described in Section 6.1.



**Figure 2.** Distribution in the parameter space of absolute magnitude  $M_r$ ,  $g - r$  colour (left-hand panel) and physical half-light radius  $R_{50,\text{phys}}$  (right-hand panel) of 189 galaxies in the child disc sample. Newly observed galaxies are shown as open circles (90 galaxies), and previously observed galaxies from P07 are shown as filled circles (99 galaxies). Galaxies in the parent disc sample (169 563 galaxies) are shown as yellow dots, and their median relations and 1 and  $2\sigma$  percentile bounds are shown in solid, dashed and dotted lines, respectively. For comparison, galaxies from the P07 galaxy sample that failed our selection criteria (58 galaxies) are shown as red stars.

**Table 1.** Basic properties of the 189 galaxies in the child disc sample. The full version of this table is available as online Supporting Information.

Galaxy name	Spec. ID	$z$	$M_r$ (mag)	$g - r$ (mag)	$R_{50,\text{phys}}$ (kpc)	$n_s$	$q_{\text{iso}}$	Instr.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
SDSS J001006.61−002609.7	0389-303-51794	0.0321	−21.13 (0.10)	0.32 (0.03)	2.42 (0.08)	1.22	0.42	TWIN
SDSS J001708.75−005728.9	0390-300-51900	0.0189	−19.62 (0.13)	0.57 (0.04)	3.13 (0.17)	1.45	0.57	TWIN
SDSS J002844.82+160058.8	0417-329-51821	0.0947	−22.37 (0.23)	0.33 (0.06)	6.08 (0.06)	1.71	0.17	DIS
SDSS J003112.09−002426.4	0391-063-51782	0.0194	−20.41 (0.12)	0.76 (0.03)	2.00 (0.10)	2.95	0.53	TWIN
SDSS J004916.23+154821.0	0419-602-51879	0.0846	−20.31 (0.07)	0.54 (0.04)	5.65 (0.07)	1.37	0.53	DIS
SDSS J004935.71+010655.2	0394-380-51913	0.0176	−21.21 (0.26)	0.82 (0.03)	5.40 (0.31)	2.42	0.17	TWIN
SDSS J011750.26+133026.3	0423-044-51821	0.0326	−20.01 (0.07)	0.36 (0.03)	3.83 (0.12)	1.44	0.53	DIS
SDSS J012317.00−005421.6	0399-254-51817	0.0259	−20.92 (0.10)	0.62 (0.03)	2.33 (0.09)	2.02	0.39	TWIN
SDSS J012340.12+004056.4	0399-478-51817	0.0334	−21.23 (0.14)	0.60 (0.03)	3.01 (0.09)	2.35	0.32	TWIN
SDSS J012438.08−000346.5	0399-178-51817	0.0277	−20.92 (0.14)	0.64 (0.03)	3.61 (0.13)	1.95	0.35	TWIN

Notes. – Column 1: SDSS name of galaxy. Column 2: spectroscopic ID: plate, fibre ID and MJD of SDSS fibre spectrum. Column 3: redshift. Column 4:  $r$ -band Petrosian absolute magnitude,  $k$ -corrected to  $z = 0$ , and corrected for Galactic and internal extinction. Column 5:  $g - r$  model colour,  $k$ -corrected to  $z = 0$ , and corrected for Galactic and internal extinction. Column 6: physical  $i$ -band Petrosian half-light radius. Column 7:  $i$ -band Sérsic index. Column 8:  $r$ -band isophotal axial ratio. Column 9: instrument(s) used for observation – TWIN/CCDS (P07), DIS (this work). Quantities in parentheses are  $1\sigma$  measurement uncertainties. The uncertainty in  $R_{50,\text{phys}}$  includes a distance uncertainty assuming a peculiar velocity of  $300 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ .

Table 1 lists the 189 galaxies in the child disc sample, together with their basic properties and the instrument used in their observation. For the five galaxies with repeat observations, instruments for both observations are listed.

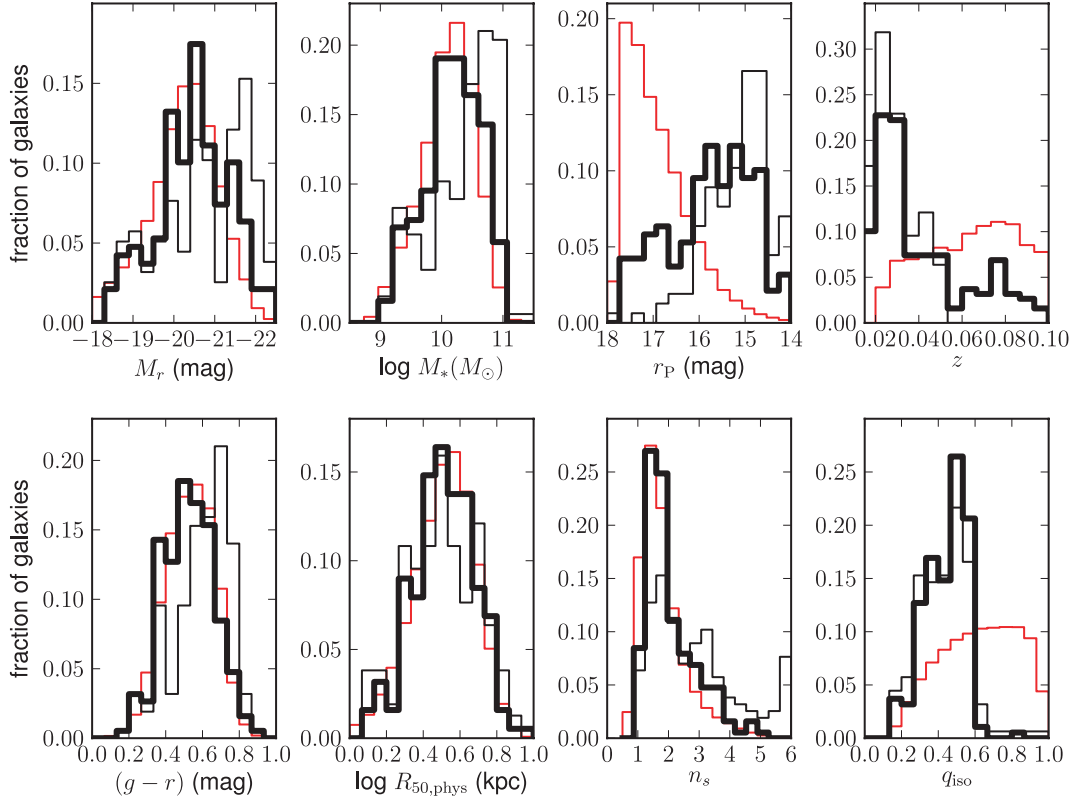
Fig. 2 shows the distribution of child disc sample galaxies in the parameter space of the absolute magnitude  $M_r$ ,  $g - r$  colour and physical half-light radius  $R_{50,\text{phys}}$  (open and filled circles), compared with that of parent disc sample galaxies (yellow dots). Also shown are the median relations (solid lines) and the 1 and  $2\sigma$  percentile limits (dashed and dotted lines, respectively) for the parent disc sample. As desired, the child disc sample spans the parameter space covered by the parent disc sample fairly well over most of the luminosity range covered. Moreover, 68 and 93 per cent of galaxies in the child disc sample lie within the 1 and  $2\sigma$  percentile bounds of the parent disc sample, close to the expected values of 68 and 95 per cent, respectively.

In Fig. 2, previously observed and newly observed galaxies are shown as filled and open circles, respectively. The former cover the

bright and faint ends, while the latter fill in the region of intermediate absolute magnitudes  $-21 \lesssim M_r \lesssim -19.5$  mag, by construction. Galaxies from the P07 galaxy sample that failed our selection criteria are shown as red stars. These excluded galaxies tend to be more luminous and redder than the mean population (i.e. earlier type discs).

Fig. 3 compares the distribution of galaxy properties for the child, P07 and parent disc galaxy samples (thick black, thin black and red histograms, respectively). Table 2 compares mean values of some basic galaxy properties for the three samples.

Figs 2 and 3 show that the P07 galaxy sample is skewed towards brighter luminosities, higher stellar masses, redder  $g - r$  colours and higher Sérsic indices, compared to the parent and child disc samples. By construction, the child disc sample follows the distribution of the parent disc sample more closely. However, because the child disc sample includes many galaxies from the P07 galaxy sample, it retains a slight bias towards brighter luminosities, higher stellar masses and higher Sérsic indices (but not redder colours).



**Figure 3.** Distribution of basic properties for galaxies in the child disc sample (thick black histograms; 189 galaxies), P07 galaxy sample (thin black histograms; 157 galaxies) and parent disc sample (red histograms; 169 563 galaxies). As in Fig. 1, upper panels show the absolute magnitudes  $M_r$ , stellar masses  $M_*$ , Petrosian apparent magnitudes  $r_p$  and redshifts  $z$ . Lower panels show  $g - r$  colours, physical Petrosian half-light radii  $R_{50,\text{phys}}$ , Sérsic indices  $n_s$  and isophotal axial ratios  $q_{\text{iso}}$ .

**Table 2.** Mean galaxy properties for the parent disc, child disc and P07 galaxy samples.

Sample	$N$	$\langle z \rangle$	$\langle M_r \rangle$ (mag)	$\langle g - r \rangle$ (mag)	$\langle R_{50} \rangle$ (kpc)
Parent	169563	0.0637	-20.23	0.53	3.35
Child	189	0.0407	-20.50	0.53	3.49
P07	157	0.0289	-20.70	0.61	3.43

### 3.3 Child versus parent disc sample

We check that the child disc sample is a fair subsample of the parent disc sample once the small difference in their luminosity distributions is taken into account. To do this, we construct 10 random subsamples of the parent disc sample with the same number of galaxies and the same  $M_r$  distribution (in 0.3 mag wide bins) as the child disc sample. We find that the distributions in  $g - r$  colour, Sérsic index  $n_s$  and physical half-light radius  $R_{50,\text{phys}}$  for the child disc sample are consistent with the mean distributions for the 10 random subsamples of the parent disc sample within the sampling variance (as can be gleaned from Fig. 3).

We also perform a Kolmogorov–Smirnov (KS) test to check whether each pair of distributions is consistent with being drawn from the same underlying population. We find mean  $D$ -statistic values equal to 0.12, 0.11 and 0.14 for the distributions in  $g - r$ ,  $n_s$  and  $R_{50,\text{phys}}$ , respectively ( $D = 0$  if the two distributions are identical). The large values of the corresponding probabilities  $P(D > \text{observed})$  – 15, 26 and 9 per cent, respectively – indicate that we

cannot reject the null hypothesis that the two distributions were drawn from the same population.

In contrast, the P07 galaxy sample is highly inconsistent with being drawn from the same distribution as the parent disc sample. Performing the same matching in absolute magnitude distributions and KS tests, we find  $D$ -statistic values equal to 0.20, 0.27 and 0.24, all with probabilities  $P(D > \text{observed})$  much less than 1 per cent –  $7 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $9 \times 10^{-5}$  and  $8 \times 10^{-4}$ .

## 4 BULGE–DISCS DECOMPOSITIONS

First, we describe our motivation for performing bulge–disc decomposition B+D fits and how these results are used in this work (Section 4.1). Then, we describe the (B+D)-fitting procedure (Section 4.2). Finally, we show example fits and discuss some results (Section 4.3).

### 4.1 Motivation and use

We perform two-dimensional B+D fits of galaxies in the child disc galaxy sample to determine their disc sizes and axial ratios and enable accurate rotation velocity estimates. The fits also provide disc-to-total light ratios,  $D/T$ , and surface brightness profiles, which we will present and analyse in future work.

In this work, we use only three basic parameters from the B+D fits:

- (i)  $q_d$ : disc’s axial ratio,
- (ii)  $R_d$ : disc’s scalelength and

(iii)  $R_{80}$ : radius containing 80 per cent of the total galaxy light.

We fit to the SDSS *i*-band galaxy images because this band is less affected by dust than the *g* and *r* bands (while the *z* band has noisier photometry).

Disc axial ratios  $q_d$  from the B+D fits are more accurate than the isophotal axial ratios  $q_{iso}$  from the SDSS photometric pipeline (used in our sample selection), because the latter is affected by the presence of a bulge and variations in seeing conditions. We therefore use  $q_d$  to determine internal extinction corrections to absolute magnitudes and colours (as described in Section 5.1). More importantly, we use  $q_d$  to determine inclination corrections to the observed rotation velocities (cf. equation 22).

## 4.2 Fitting procedure

Numerous studies have performed two-dimensional bulge-disc decomposition of galaxy light profiles, in order to quantify their morphological properties (Peng et al. 2002; Allen et al. 2006; Benson et al. 2007; Gadotti 2009). However, a bulge–disc decomposition into an exponential disc plus a Sérsic bulge requires a fit with a large number (12) of free parameters, many of which are degenerate, in particular, the bulge Sérsic index, the bulge effective radius and the bulge central surface brightness.

Fortunately, the surface density profiles of nearby disc galaxies are adequately described, on average, by a double-exponential profile (MacArthur, Courteau & Holtzman 2003; Graham & Worley 2008; McDonald et al. 2011).<sup>6</sup> Since we are not interested in the detailed morphology of galaxy bulges in this work, we have chosen to fix the bulge Sérsic index to 1, yielding more robust fits to the bulge and disc.<sup>7</sup>

We fit the *i*-band galaxy images with a double-exponential distribution:

$$I(R) = I_d \exp(-R/R_d) + I_b \exp(-1.68R/R_{\text{eff}}), \quad (1)$$

where  $R_d$  is the disc scalelength,  $R_{\text{eff}}$  is the effective radius of the bulge (equal to 1.68 times its scalelength), and  $I_d$  and  $I_b$  are the central surface brightness of the disc and bulge components, respectively. The radial coordinate,  $R$ , is given by an ellipse centred at  $(x_0, y_0)$

$$R = ((x - x_0)^2 + ((y - y_0)/q_{(b,d)})^2)^{1/2}, \quad (2)$$

where  $q_{(b,d)}$  denote the axial ratios of the bulge and disc, respectively. As with the SDSS exponential models, the surface brightness of each component is truncated at four times the effective radius, with a smooth fall-off to zero between three and four effective radii.

We use the SDSS DR7 *i*-band atlas images from the most recent reductions (v5\_6) (Aihara et al. 2011). These are sky-subtracted images<sup>8</sup> of typically less than  $200 \times 200$  pixels. The fits are done by minimizing the weighted difference between the image and the model convolved with the PSF at the galaxy position. The minimizer

used is the Levenberg–Marquardt minimizer `mpfit2dfun` in `IDL` (Markwardt 2009). Each pixel is weighted by its inverse variance, which is computed using the locally measured sky background counts from the SDSS for each galaxy.

The initial conditions for the fit are taken from the SDSS measurements of  $R_{\text{EXP}}$ , the exponential scalelength, and  $AB_{\text{EXP}}$ , the exponential fit axial ratio, and the total flux of the atlas image. The initial axial ratio and PA of the bulge are chosen to be the same as those of the disc. The initial scalelength of the bulge is set to 40 per cent of the disc, and the initial  $D/T$  is set to 0.6. The fits are robust against changes in the initial conditions, specifically changes in the initial bulge size and  $D/T$ .

In order to compare the model to the atlas image during fitting, the model is convolved with the locally measured PSF from the SDSS pipeline. For each galaxy, the fitter returns the best-fitting parameters, the covariance matrix of these parameters and the reduced  $\chi^2$  value for the fit. Since each fit consists of two exponential profiles, we choose the exponential with the smaller scalelength to be the bulge.

Our model consists of two axisymmetric exponential profiles, so we are unable to fit any non-axisymmetric features such as spiral arms, bars and dust lanes. For galaxies in which these features are very prominent, the model is inadequate. Additionally, our model is inadequate for highly inclined discs, where the semiminor axis of the galaxy image ( $R_d \times q_d$ ) is comparable to the disc’s scaleheight. At inclinations of  $\sim 70^\circ$ , the errors in the surface brightness are between 5 and 10 per cent, for reasonable disc scaleheights. If the bulge of such a disc galaxy is disc-like (i.e. a pseudo-bulge) but is not highly inclined, it is still possible to fit it accurately.

## 4.3 Results

Panels in Fig. 4 show the observed, model and residual images (from left to right) from B+D fits of four galaxies (from top to bottom), chosen for illustrations: SDSSJ013017+14 and SDSSJ153433+41, are disc-dominated galaxies, with  $D/T = 0.99$  and 1.00, respectively; SDSSJ234107–01 has a more substantial bulge, with  $D/T = 0.81$ ; SDSSJ204913+00 is an extreme case – it has an edge-on disc and a substantial bulge; the disc light is obscured by dust, resulting in an extremely low reported  $D/T$  of 0.54.

We use both  $2.2R_d$  and  $R_{80}$  to set the radius at which to define the disc rotation velocity amplitude (see Section 6.4). We note that  $R_{80}$  is less sensitive to any degeneracies in the B+D fit. The ratio  $R_{80}/(2.2R_d)$  clearly depends on the relative size of the bulge and disc. Its value is 1.4 for a pure exponential disc ( $D/T = 1$ ) and decreases smoothly down to 1.2, 1.1 and 1.0 for  $D/T = 0.8, 0.7$  and 0.6, respectively.

Table 3 lists the best-fitting parameters from the *i*-band B+D fits of galaxies in the child disc sample, together with their reduced  $\chi^2$  values. Fig. 5 shows distributions of  $2.2R_d$ ,  $R_{80}$ ,  $q_d$  and  $D/T$ . The 5th, 50th (median) and 95th percentile values for  $2.2R_d$  are 3.4, 7.4 and 12.2 kpc, respectively; for  $R_{80}$ , they are 4.3, 9.8 and 16.5 kpc, respectively.

We find that disc axial ratios  $q_d$  from the B+D fits correlate well with the isophotal axial ratios  $q_{iso}$  from the SDSS and are lower by 8 per cent on average. As noted earlier, the isophotal axial ratios are affected by seeing the bulge light, and both effects tend to increase the inferred axial ratios. In Section 5.1, we describe corrections to  $q_{iso}$  to estimate disc axial ratios for the parent disc sample (to be used for internal extinction corrections).

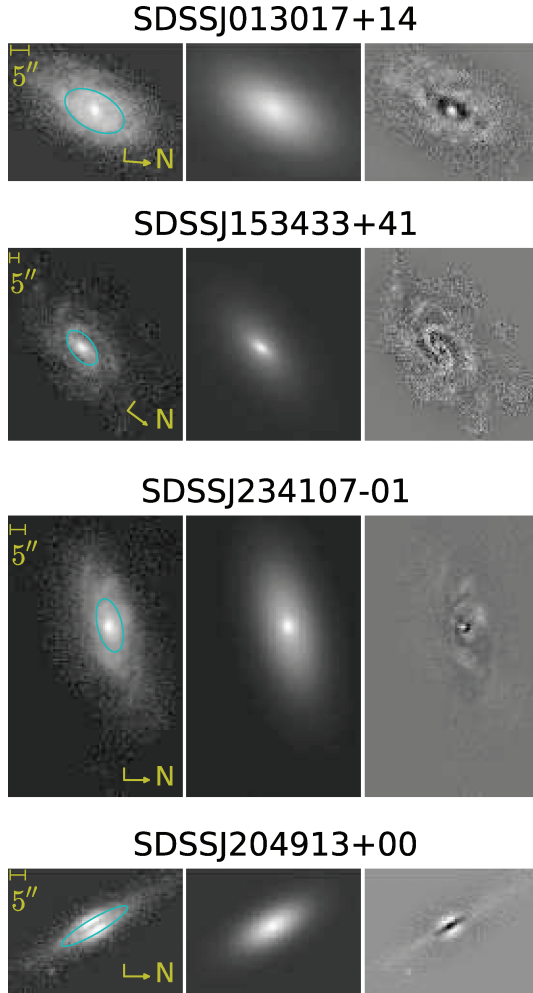
Out of the 189 galaxies in the child disc sample, 86 (46 per cent), 135 (71 per cent) and 165 (87 per cent) have  $D/T$  greater than

<sup>6</sup> From their B+D fits of nearby disc galaxies, MacArthur et al. (2003) found bulge Sérsic indices ranging from 0.1 to 2, with a mean very close to 1.

<sup>7</sup> The degeneracies are not completely removed, but fixing the bulge Sérsic index decreases the covariance between bulge flux normalization and bulge scalelength.

<sup>8</sup> Improper sky subtraction will affect the B+D fits. The general trend in SDSS DR7 (and DR8) is for the sky to be overestimated near bright, large galaxies, which leads to underestimation of the galaxies’ sizes and luminosities. These sky subtraction issues are not expected to affect the typical galaxy in our sample.





**Figure 4.** Example two-dimensional bulge-disc decomposition fits. Left to right panels: SDSS *i*-band image, model image (exponential disc plus exponential bulge, convolved with the PSF), and residual image (data–model). The blue ellipse on the SDSS image marks the ellipse containing 80 per cent of the flux, with semimajor axis  $R_{80}$  and axial ratio equal to that of the model disc,  $q_d$ . Both SDSS and model images are logarithmically scaled (with the same stretch), while the residual image is linearly scaled. Reading down the figure, the maximum (minimum) residual equals 36 per cent (–25 per cent), 18 per cent (–11 per cent), 15 per cent (–9 per cent), and 47 per cent (–46 per cent) of the central model brightness for each galaxy.

0.95, 0.9 and 0.8, respectively. We find that the majority of galaxies with  $D/T$  greater than 0.95 have  $n_s < 2.3$ , but there is a large scatter in  $n_s$  for any given  $D/T$ . Two galaxies – SDSSJ124545+52 and SDSSJ204913+00 (shown in bottom panels of Fig. 4) – have reported  $D/T$  lower than 0.5. Both galaxies have edge-on discs ( $q_d < 0.2$ ), which led to an underestimation of the disc light (due to large amounts of dust extinction) and a large overestimation of  $R_{80}$ . For both galaxies, we do not use the overestimated values for  $R_{80}$ . Instead, we assign  $R_{80} = 2.3R_d$ , based on the relation between these two disc sizes for B+D model galaxies with  $D/T \approx 0.5$ .

## 5 DERIVATION OF PHOTOMETRIC QUANTITIES

Our aim is to construct photometric estimators of disc rotation velocities by calibrating their respective TFRs. We begin by describing how we apply internal extinction corrections to galaxy absolute

magnitudes and colours (Section 5.1). We do not apply any internal extinction corrections to the disc scalelengths, but note that their effect on the rotation velocity amplitudes used in the TFRs is small (see Section 6.4 for details).

Next, we define the different photometric quantities, namely absolute magnitudes, synthetic magnitudes, stellar masses and baryonic masses (Sections 5.2–5.5). We also define and characterize the associated observational errors, which are important for estimating the intrinsic scatter in the TFRs. In the light of future applications, we have focused on estimators that are readily available for the full parent disc sample (i.e. do not require B+D fits).

### 5.1 Internal extinction corrections

Disc galaxies are affected by dust obscuration; an inclined disc galaxy appears redder and fainter than if it were face-on (e.g. Burstein, Haynes & Faber 1991). Therefore, we apply internal extinction corrections to the absolute magnitudes and colours of galaxies in both the child and parent disc samples. If these corrections are not applied, extinction effects can induce a spurious correlation between disc inclination and residuals from the TFR. We demonstrate that our corrections effectively remove this correlation in Section 10.1.

Traditionally, internal extinction corrections are applied relative to the face-on orientation, but any inclination (or, equivalently, axial ratio) can be used as a reference point. In fact, correcting to a reference inclination that is typical of the galaxy sample has the advantage of minimizing the amount of the correction, as well as the corresponding uncertainty. For this reason, we use extinction corrections to a reference inclination  $\theta^*$  (corresponding to an axial ratio  $q^*$ ), which are related to face-on corrections by

$$A_{\lambda}^{\theta-\theta^*} = A_{\lambda}^{\theta-0} - A_{\lambda}^{\theta-0}(q^*). \quad (3)$$

Here, the superscript ‘ $\theta - \theta^*$ ’ denotes corrections to a reference inclination  $\theta^*$  and ‘ $\theta - 0$ ’ denotes corrections to face-on orientation. Note that both corrections are relative, and do not account for extinction in a face-on system. We choose  $q^* = \langle q_d \rangle = 0.40$ , the mean disc axial ratio of the child disc sample.<sup>9</sup>

Following the empirical prescription of Tully et al. (1998), which is based on a study of 87 spiral galaxies in the Ursa Major and Pisces clusters with photometry in the Johnson *B*, Cousins *RI*, and an infrared *K* band, we calculate the extinction  $A_{\lambda}$ , in the passband  $\lambda$ , to be

$$A_{\lambda}^{\theta-0} = -\gamma_{\lambda} (M_{\lambda}^{\text{NC}}) \times \log(q_d), \quad (4)$$

where  $q_d$  is the disc axial ratio and  $M_{\lambda}^{\text{NC}}$  is the Petrosian absolute magnitude without internal extinction correction.<sup>10</sup>

The  $\gamma_{\lambda}$  in equation (4) are the linear functions of  $M_{\lambda}$ , given in equations (3)–(5) of Tully et al. (1998) for the *BRI* bands (at effective wavelengths of 4448, 6581 and 8059 Å, respectively). To determine  $\gamma_{\lambda}$  for the SDSS bands *u*, *g*, *r*, *i*, *z*, we first use conversion formulae from table 7 of Smith et al. (2002) to estimate *BRI* absolute

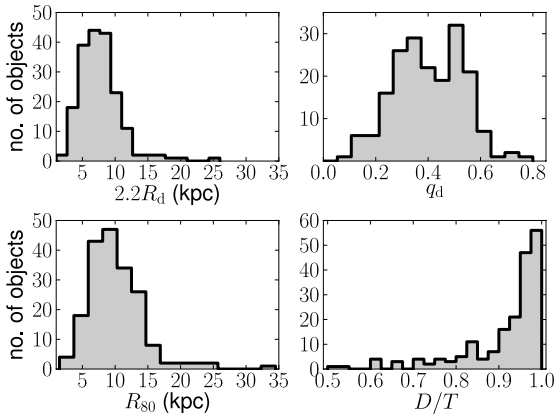
<sup>9</sup> For comparison, the mean axial ratio of a sample of randomly oriented discs with an intrinsic axial ratio (ratio of the vertical and radial scalelengths) of 0.19 is 0.67. Recall that the child disc sample is restricted to low axial ratio galaxies, with  $q_{\text{iso}} < 0.6$ .

<sup>10</sup> In a more recent work, Maller et al. (2009) explored the dependence of  $\gamma_{\lambda}$  on both  $M_K$  and  $n_s$ . For  $n_s = 1.0$ , their values of  $\gamma_{\lambda}$  are comparable with those of Tully et al. (1998), although the inferred dependence on  $M_K$  differs (cf. their fig. 10). We have not adopted their corrections because they require infrared data.

**Table 3.** Best-fitting parameters from *i*-band B+D fits for 189 galaxies in the child disc sample. The full version of this table is available as online Supporting Information.

Galaxy	$D_A$ (1arcsec) (kpc)	$q_d$	$D/T$	$R_d$ (arcsec)	$R_{80}$ (arcsec)	$\chi^2/\nu$
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
SDSS J001006.61–002609.7	0.6420	0.284	1.00	3.56 (0.01)	10.67	3.91
SDSS J001708.75–005728.9	0.3833	0.575	1.00	7.56 (0.04)	22.62	2.10
SDSS J002844.82+160058.8	1.7575	0.144	0.83	5.09 (0.14)	14.17	1.23
SDSS J003112.09–002426.4	0.3943	0.534	0.79	5.38 (0.01)	14.34	1.71
SDSS J004916.23+154821.0	1.5879	0.568	0.95	2.83 (0.12)	8.28	1.27
SDSS J004935.71+010655.2	0.3570	0.107	0.96	21.93 (0.06)	64.63	3.00
SDSS J011750.26+133026.3	0.6513	0.430	0.95	5.98 (0.08)	17.53	1.44
SDSS J012317.00–005421.6	0.5211	0.299	0.81	5.28 (0.03)	14.25	2.75
SDSS J012340.12+004056.4	0.6654	0.213	0.84	5.55 (0.04)	15.39	1.82
SDSS J012438.08–000346.5	0.5561	0.221	0.94	6.75 (0.03)	19.76	1.57

Notes. Column 1: SDSS name of galaxy. Column 2: angular diameter distance corresponding to 1 arcsec at the redshift of the galaxy, in units of kpc. Column 3: disc axial ratio,  $q_d$ . Column 4: Disc-to-total light ratio,  $D/T$ . Column 5: disc scalelength,  $R_d$ , and its  $1\sigma$  uncertainty (in parentheses). Column 6: radius containing 80 per cent of the total galaxy light,  $R_{80}$ . Column 7: reduced  $\chi^2$  of the B+D fit ( $\nu$  is the number of degrees of freedom).

**Figure 5.** Distribution of *i*-band B+D fit parameters—disc sizes,  $2.2R_d$  and  $R_{80}$ , disc axial ratios,  $q_d$ , and disc-to-total ratios,  $D/T$ —for 189 galaxies in the child disc sample.

magnitudes from the SDSS *g*-band absolute magnitudes,  $g - r$  and  $r - i$  colours. Then, we fit a quadratic function to  $\gamma_B$ ,  $\gamma_R$ , and  $\gamma_I$  as a function of  $\lambda$  and interpolate (or extrapolate)  $\gamma_\lambda$  for the SDSS *u*, *g*, *r*, *i*, *z* bands, with effective wavelengths of 3557, 4825, 6261, 7672 and 9097 Å, respectively (close to the *BR*I passbands).

For the child disc sample, disc axial ratios  $q_d$  were derived from B+D fits (Section 4). For the parent disc sample, for which we have not performed B+D fits, we approximate the disc axial ratios by applying corrections  $C_q$  to the SDSS isophotal axial ratios  $q_{iso}$ :

$$q_d/q_{iso} \equiv C_q(f_{PSF}, q_{iso}), \quad (5)$$

where  $f_{PSF} = \theta_{PSF}/R_{50}$ , the ratio of the seeing PSF full width at half-maximum to the galaxy's Petrosian half-light radius. Motivated by available data from the child disc sample, we adopt the fitting formula

$$C_q = 1.21 + m_1(f_{PSF} - 0.22) + m_2(q_{iso} - 0.20) \quad (6)$$

for galaxies with  $q_{iso} \leq 0.6$ . From a least-squares fit to the child disc sample data set, we find  $m_1 = 0.22$  and  $m_2 = -0.32$ . For galaxies with  $q_{iso} > 0.6$ , we set  $C_q = 1$ . The mean value of  $C_q$  for the parent disc sample is 1.07.

By construction, the mean internal extinction corrections  $A_\lambda^{\theta-\theta*}$  are small for the child disc sample: 0.03 mag for the *u*, *g* and *r* bands and 0.02 mag for the *i* and *z* bands. For the *i*-band, the 5th, 50th and 95th percentile values are  $-0.22$ , 0.01 and 0.28 mag, respectively. The mean internal extinction corrections to face-on orientation  $A_\lambda^{\theta-0}$  are larger: 0.67, 0.60, 0.51, 0.41 and 0.31 mag for the *u*, *g*, *r*, *i*, *z* bands, respectively. If we were to correct to face-on orientation instead, the main effect would be a shift in the derived zero-points of the  $M_\lambda$  TFRs by an amount given by the relative internal extinction corrections (as we show explicitly in Section 9.2).

## 5.2 Absolute magnitudes

Internal extinction-corrected absolute magnitudes  $M_\lambda$ , as described in Section 2.1, are calculated as

$$M_\lambda = m_{P,\lambda} - 5 \log(D_L/10\text{pc}) - K_\lambda - A_\lambda^{\text{MW}} - A_\lambda^{\theta-\theta*}. \quad (7)$$

Here,  $m_{P,\lambda}$  is the apparent SDSS Petrosian magnitude in the band  $\lambda$ ,  $D_L$  is the luminosity distance calculated from the SDSS redshift (with cosmology  $\Omega_m = 0.3$ ,  $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.7$  and  $h = 0.7$ ),  $K_\lambda$  is the *k*-correction to  $z = 0$  calculated using the *KCORRECT* product version v4\_1\_4 of Blanton & Roweis (2007),  $A_\lambda^{\text{MW}}$  is the correction for Galactic extinction based on dust maps of Schlegel et al. (1998), and  $A_\lambda^{\theta-\theta*}$  is the internal-extinction correction to the mean inclination of the child disc sample (equations 3 and 4).  $M_\lambda^{\text{NC}}$  is defined similarly, but without the internal extinction correction term.

We estimate the uncertainty in  $M_\lambda$  to be

$$(\delta M_\lambda)^2 = (\delta m_{P,\lambda})^2 + \left( \frac{5}{\ln 10} \frac{\delta V_{\text{pec}}}{cz} \right)^2 + \left( \delta A_\lambda^{\theta-\theta*} \right)^2,$$

with terms representing the uncertainty in  $m_{P,\lambda}$ ,  $D_L$  and  $A_\lambda^{\theta-\theta*}$ , respectively. We neglect the smaller uncertainties from the redshift, *k*-correction and Galactic extinction correction measurements. We use uncertainties  $\delta m_{P,\lambda}$  derived from the *KCORRECT* routines, which have imposed a minimum uncertainty of [0.05, 0.02, 0.02, 0.02, 0.03] mag in the *u*, *g*, *r*, *i*, *z* bands (to account for uncertainties in the absolute calibration for each galaxy). For the distance uncertainty, we adopt  $\delta V_{\text{pec}} = 300 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , the typical amplitude of small-scale peculiar velocities (Strauss & Willick 1995). The second term has



5th, 50th and 95th percentile values of 0.03, 0.07 and 0.12, respectively. For the internal extinction correction uncertainty, we follow other authors (e.g. P07) and arbitrarily adopt  $\delta A_{\lambda}^{\theta-\theta^*} = A_{\lambda}^{\theta-\theta^*}/3$ . However, since we correct to the mean inclination (instead of face-on orientation), our extinction corrections, as well as the associated uncertainties, are much smaller. The median value of  $\delta A_{\lambda}^{\theta-\theta^*}$  is less than 0.01 mag in all bands. For the  $i$  band, the 5th and 95th percentile values are  $-0.07$  and  $0.09$  mag, respectively.

The uncertainty in the absolute magnitude is dominated by the uncertainty due to peculiar velocities. The median uncertainty in  $M_{\lambda}$  is 0.09 mag for the  $g$ ,  $r$  and  $i$  bands, and 0.14 mag for the  $z$  band. For the  $i$ -band, the 5th and 95th percentile values are 0.04 and 0.15 mag, respectively.

### 5.3 Synthetic magnitudes

We define a synthetic magnitude to be a linear combination of the absolute magnitude in some band  $\lambda$  and a chosen colour,

$$M_{\text{syn}}(\alpha; \lambda, \text{colour}) = M_{\lambda} + \alpha \times (\text{colour}), \quad (8)$$

where  $\alpha$  is some coefficient that we are free to choose. Using this quantity generalizes the method of applying colour-based  $M_{\star}/L$  corrections to luminosities to estimate stellar masses (Bell et al. 2003; see Section 5.4.1)

In this work, we aim to define optimal photometric estimators of rotation velocity. Therefore, we choose the coefficient  $\alpha$  to be the value that minimizes the scatter in the inverse TFR (ITFR), in which  $M_{\text{syn}}$  is the independent variable, and rotation velocity is the dependent variable (cf. equation 26 in Section 7.1).

Internal extinction-corrected galaxy colours, as described in Section 2.1, are calculated as

$$g - r = m_{\text{model},g} - m_{\text{model},r} - (K_{\text{model},g} - K_{\text{model},r}) - (A_g^{\text{MW}} - A_r^{\text{MW}}) - (A_g^{\theta-\theta^*} - A_r^{\theta-\theta^*}), \quad (9)$$

where  $m_{\text{model},\lambda}$  are the apparent SDSS model magnitudes,  $K_{\text{model},\lambda}$  are  $k$ -corrections to  $z = 0$  for the model magnitudes,  $A_{\lambda}^{\text{MW}}$  are corrections for Galactic extinction and  $A_{\lambda}^{\theta-\theta^*}$  are corrections for internal extinction (these last three quantities are calculated as in equation 7).  $(g - r)^{\text{NC}}$  is defined similarly, but without the internal extinction correction terms.

We estimate observational errors in the  $g - r$  colour to be

$$[\delta(g - r)]^2 = (\delta m_{\text{model},g})^2 + (\delta m_{\text{model},r})^2 + [(A_g^{\theta-\theta^*} - A_r^{\theta-\theta^*})/3]^2. \quad (10)$$

Other colours are defined similarly. The median uncertainty in colours that do not involve the  $u$  band range from 0.03 to 0.05 mag. Colours involving the  $u$  band have slightly higher median uncertainties, ranging from 0.06 to 0.08 mag.

### 5.4 Stellar masses

We consider two kinds of stellar mass estimates: Bell et al. (2003) and MPA/JHU stellar masses, defined in Section 5.4.1 and Section 5.4.2, respectively. We convert both estimates to correspond to the same IMF normalization. We adopt the Kroupa (2002) IMF, which adequately represents direct observational estimates of the IMF for late-type galaxies. (The normalization of this IMF is 0.3 dex lower than that for a Salpeter IMF with a lower mass cut-off of  $0.1 M_{\odot}$ .) We compare the two different stellar mass estimates in Section 5.4.3.

#### 5.4.1 Bell et al. (2003) stellar masses

Our primary stellar mass estimate, denoted by  $M_{\star}$  or  $M_{\star,\text{Bell}}$ , are calculated following the prescription of Bell et al. (2003). First, we calculate  $i$ -band luminosities

$$\log(L_i/L_{\odot}) = -0.4 (M_i^{\text{NC}} - M_{\odot,i} + 1.1z), \quad (11)$$

where  $M_{\odot,i} = 4.56$  mag, and  $1.1z$  is the mean evolution correction (in their stellar population models). Then, we calculate  $g - r$  colour-based stellar mass-to-light ratios

$$\log(M_{\star}/L_i) = a_i^{\text{Bell}} + b_i^{\text{Bell}} \times (g - r)^{\text{NC}} - 0.15, \quad (12)$$

with  $a_i^{\text{Bell}} = -0.22$  and  $b_i^{\text{Bell}} = 0.86$ . The final term,  $-0.15$ , converts the normalization from the ‘diet Salpeter’ IMF adopted by Bell et al. (2003) to a Kroupa IMF.<sup>11</sup> Finally, we calculate stellar masses

$$\log(M_{\star}/M_{\odot}) = \log(L_i/L_{\odot}) + \log(M_{\star}/L_i). \quad (13)$$

We have used absolute magnitudes and colours uncorrected for internal extinction because Bell et al. (2003) did not apply any such corrections. Moreover, as noted in Bell & de Jong (2001), dust affects the stellar mass estimates in two different ways that cancel out to first order: dimming of the galaxy light leads to a lower luminosity and therefore a lower stellar mass estimate, but dust reddening leads to a higher stellar mass-to-light ratio, and consequently, a higher stellar mass estimate. Because of this partial cancellation, corrections for the fact that galaxies in the child disc sample have smaller axial ratios compared to the full galaxy population (used by Bell et al. 2003), and therefore larger internal extinctions, on average, are tiny, and are not applied for simplicity.

To estimate the statistical uncertainty in  $M_{\star}$ , we propagate errors from  $M_i$  and  $g - r$ , as given by equations (8) and 10, with the internal extinction correction terms excluded. For the child disc sample, the mean statistical uncertainty in  $M_{\star,\text{Bell}}$  (at fixed Kroupa IMF) is 0.041 dex.

#### 5.4.2 MPA/JHU stellar masses

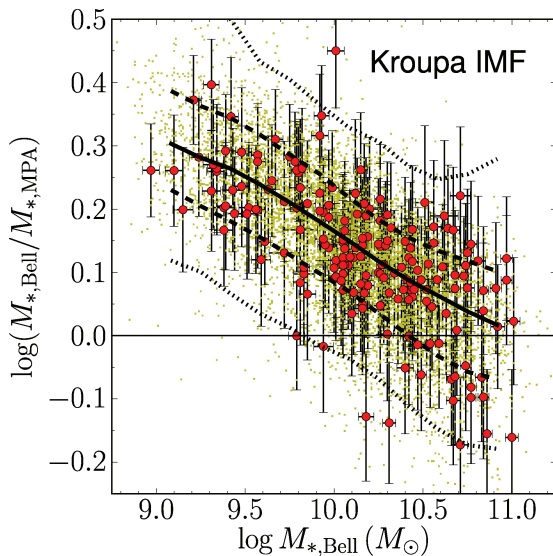
The second set of photometric stellar mass estimates, denoted by  $M_{\star,\text{MPA}}$ , are based on fits to the  $u$ ,  $g$ ,  $r$ ,  $i$ ,  $z$  spectral energy distribution (SED) from the MPA/JHU group.<sup>12</sup> We define  $M_{\star,\text{MPA}}$  to be the reported median of the probability distribution function (PDF), with 0.05 dex subtracted, to convert the normalization from their adopted Chabrier IMF to a Kroupa IMF. We define the uncertainty in  $M_{\star,\text{MPA}}$  to be half of the difference between the 84th and 16th percentiles of the PDF. For the child disc sample, the mean statistical uncertainty in  $M_{\star,\text{MPA}}$  (at fixed Kroupa IMF) is 0.089 dex.

#### 5.4.3 Comparison of $M_{\star,\text{Bell}}$ and $M_{\star,\text{MPA}}$

Both the Bell et al. (2003) and MPA/JHU stellar masses are based on SED fits to SDSS photometry, but they employ different methods, including different sets of model spectra (the latter allows for a wider possible range in parameters), different stellar population synthesis codes (Bruzual & Charlot 2003 versus Fioc & Rocca-Volmerange 1997) and different treatments for extinction (the former does not apply internal extinction corrections, while the latter does).

<sup>11</sup> The normalization of the ‘diet Salpeter’ IMF is 0.15 dex lower than that for a Salpeter IMF with a lower mass cut-off of  $0.1 M_{\odot}$ , and therefore 0.15 dex higher than for a Kroupa IMF.

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.mpa-garching.mpg.de/SDSS/DR7/Data/stellarmass.html>. See also Aihara et al. (2011).



**Figure 6.** Ratio of the two different stellar mass estimates  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  and  $M_{*,\text{MPA}}$  for the parent and child disc samples (yellow dots and red circles, respectively). Error bars show  $1\sigma$  statistical uncertainties in  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$ . Solid curve shows the median relation; dashed and dotted curves show  $1\sigma$  and  $2-\sigma$  bounds for the parent disc sample, respectively.

Fig. 6 compares the two kinds of stellar mass estimates for the parent and child disc samples (yellow dots and red circles, respectively). There is a clear systematic difference between the two, which increases towards lower stellar masses. It is understandable why the lowest masses are the most problematic; low-mass galaxies have more dust and complicated star formation histories. It is somewhat re-assuring that the two estimates approach towards agreement at the high-mass end, but it is unclear which is more correct for lower masses.

Given these uncertainties in our current knowledge, we will present our main results using both kinds of stellar masses. This will give the reader a sense of the range of allowed scenarios (at a fixed IMF), and explicitly show which of our conclusions are robust to systematics associated with the stellar mass estimates.

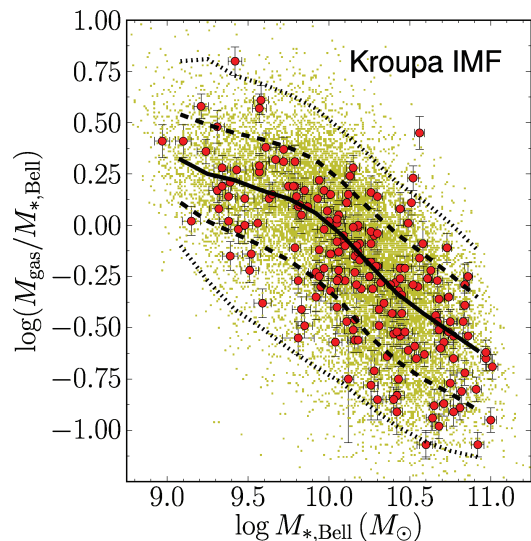
### 5.5 Baryonic masses

We calculate baryonic mass estimates as a sum of stellar and gas masses:  $M_{\text{bar}} = M_{*,\text{Bell}} + M_{\text{gas}}$ , with  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  given by equation (13). We adopt  $u-r$  colour-based gas-to-stellar mass ratio estimates from Kannappan (2004):

$$\log(M_{\text{gas}}/M_{*,\text{Bell}}) = 1.46 - 1.06(u-r)^{\text{NC}} + 0.15, \quad (14)$$

which was derived from 346 galaxies in SDSS DR2 (Abazajian 2004) with infrared data from Two Micron All Sky Survey (Jarrett et al. 2000) and H I data from HyperLeda (Paturel et al. 2003). We have used colours uncorrected for internal extinction because Kannappan (2004) did not apply any such corrections. The addition of 0.15 dex converts the normalization of  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  from their adopted ‘diet Salpeter’ IMF to a Kroupa IMF.

To calculate statistical uncertainties in  $M_{\text{bar}}$ , we propagate errors from  $M_*$  and  $(u-r)^{\text{NC}}$ . For the child disc sample, the mean statistical uncertainty in  $M_{\text{bar}}$  (at fixed Kroupa IMF) is 0.043 dex.



**Figure 7.** Stellar-to-gas mass ratios derived from  $u-r$  colours from Kannappan (2004) (equation 14) versus stellar masses  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  for the parent and child disc samples (yellow dots and red circles, respectively). Error bars show  $1\sigma$  uncertainties. Solid, dashed and dotted curves show the median relation and  $1-$  and  $2-\sigma$  limits for the parent disc sample.

The above relation, equation (14), has a large scatter, 0.42 dex, which seems to be mostly physical.<sup>13</sup> We note that there are substantial systematic uncertainties in this relation as well. However, since we are primarily interested in using  $M_{\text{bar}}$  as a photometric estimator of disc rotation velocity, its precision as an estimate of the true baryonic mass of a galaxy is of secondary importance. Regardless, it will be useful to know whether  $M_{\text{bar}}$  yields a tighter ITFR than say,  $M_*$  or  $M_{\text{syn}}$ .

Fig. 7 shows gas-to-stellar mass ratios for the parent and child disc samples (yellow dots and red circles, respectively). This ratio varies from  $\sim 30$  per cent at the highest stellar masses to a factor of  $\sim 3$  at the lowest masses. For the child disc sample, the 5th, median and 95th-percentile values are 0.13, 0.60 and 2.29, respectively.

## 6 DERIVATION OF KINEMATIC QUANTITIES

We begin this section by describing our long-slit spectroscopy observations and reductions of the raw data (Section 6.1). Then, we describe the steps in our rotation curve analysis pipeline. First, we extract rotation curves from the two-dimensional long-slit spectra (Section 6.2). Then, we perform fits to these rotation curves (Section 6.3). Finally, we define the disc rotation velocities that are used in the TFRs (Section 6.4).

In the final subsection, we investigate the effect of systematics on the determination of these rotation velocities. First, we investigate the effect of slit misalignments (Section 6.5.1). Next, we compare the rotation curves extracted from multiple observations of the same galaxy for the five galaxies observed by both us and P07 (Section 6.5.2). Finally, we compare the rotation velocities derived from our analysis pipeline with those reported by P07 (Section 6.5.3).

<sup>13</sup> Kannappan (2004) obtained a somewhat tighter relation using  $u-K$  colour, with a scatter of 0.37 dex. Here, we have adopted the  $u-r$  colour-based relation so as not to rely on the availability of  $K$ -band data.

**Table 4.** Observations with DIS at APO 3.5 m (95 galaxies). The full version of this table is available as online Supporting Information.

Galaxy name	$z$	PA (deg)	Exp. time (s)	Obs. date
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
SDSS J002844.82+160058.8	0.0947	35.79	1200 × 3	2009-09-14
SDSS J004916.23+154821.0	0.0846	−73.04	1200 × 3	2009-09-14
SDSS J011750.26+133026.3	0.0326	−66.45	1200 × 2	2009-09-15
SDSS J013017.16+143918.5	0.0239	−23.95	1200 × 3	2009-09-23
SDSS J020056.00+133116.6	0.0312	41.92	1200 × 3	2009-09-23
SDSS J020133.02+133126.4	0.0978	48.43	1200 × 2	2009-09-14
SDSS J020526.65+131938.4	0.0251	78.57	1200 × 2	2009-09-20
SDSS J020540.31−004141.4	0.0424	−30.32	1200 × 2	2009-09-15
SDSS J020819.43+134944.6	0.0798	−22.48	1200 × 3	2009-09-23
SDSS J020923.14+125029.8	0.0604	64.47	1200 × 2	2009-09-15

Notes. Column 1: SDSS name of galaxy. Column 2: redshift of galaxy. Column 3: major axis PA in degrees east of north. Column 4: duration of spectroscopic exposure (s). Column 5: UT date of observation.

### 6.1 Long-slit spectroscopy observations and data reduction

We carried out long-slit spectroscopy observations with the 3.5-m telescope at Apache Point Observatory (APO) using the Dual Imaging Spectrograph (DIS) with a 1200 lines mm<sup>−1</sup> grating and 1.5 arcsec slit. The spectral range covered is 6433–7615 Å (centred at 7024 Å). The linear dispersion is 0.58 Å pixel<sup>−1</sup>, and the instrumental resolution is approximately 2 pixels or 50 km s<sup>−1</sup> (at the typical observed wavelength of the H $\alpha$  line).

We observed a total of 95 galaxies over 25 half-nights between March 2009 and June 2010. In most cases, we took three 1200 s exposures, except for a few bright, nearby galaxies for which we took two 1200 s exposures. All targets were observed with the slit PA set on the major axis of the galaxy, determined from SDSS PHOTO exponential fits to the  $r$ -band images in most cases (see Section 6.5.1 for details). Table 4 lists the galaxy names, redshifts, slit PA’s, exposure times and observation dates.

To test systematics, we observed two galaxies with the slit PA set on the minor axis, and another two galaxies with the slit PA set at  $\pm 10^\circ$  off the major axis (see Section 6.5.1). In addition, five galaxies from the P07 sample were re-observed with DIS (see Section 6.5.2); for these galaxies, we use the DIS observations in the final analysis.

Flat-fielding, bias-subtraction, wavelength calibration, linearization and flux calibration were performed using standard IRAF<sup>14</sup> routines. Wavelength calibration and linearization used HeNeAr arc frames. For flux calibration, Feige 34, Feige 56, BD26+2606 and HD 192281 were used as standard stars (selected to match the air-mass and time of observation). The use of multiple exposures for each observation allows cosmic ray removal. We combine frames using the IRAF routine *imcombine* with option *reject=crrreject*. For sky subtraction, we took the average sky spectrum over 21 pixels (12 Å) on either side of the galaxy’s H $\alpha$  emission. Then, from each area of the CCD on either side of the galaxy’s continuum centre, we subtracted the average sky spectrum measured from that side.

### 6.2 Rotation curve extraction

We begin by defining the radial bins for the extracted rotation curve. First, we choose the central row to be at the peak of the galaxy con-

tinuum flux (defined to be the total flux over rest wavelengths 6590–6630 Å). Then, we bin together rows on either side of the central row with increasing bin sizes of 1, 1, 2, 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, 20, 32, 56, 80 and 100 pixels, for a total of 27 radial bins (1 pixel = 0.577 Å). We take the mean over the rows in each bin to get binned spectra. With this choice of binning, the S/N of the binned spectra remains roughly constant with radius (since the bins cover increasingly larger areas as the galaxy flux falls off with the radius).

For each of the binned spectra, we fit a set of three Gaussians plus a linear continuum to the H $\alpha$ + [N II]6548, 6583 emission lines, over the wavelength range of 6520–6610 Å. We fix the ratio of [N II]6548 to [N II]6583 flux to the theoretical value 1:3 and require all linewidths to be equal. We find the best-fitting H $\alpha$  line centre  $\lambda_{\text{H}\alpha}$ , linewidth  $\sigma_{\text{H}\alpha}$ , H $\alpha$  line flux and [N II]6548 line flux using a Levenberg–Marquardt least-squares minimization routine in IDL called MPFIT.<sup>15</sup> We perform a set of 500 Monte Carlo realizations (varying the flux at each wavelength according to the error in that flux measurement) to estimate errors in the fit parameters.

For each bin, we also get a flux-weighted average spatial position  $R'$ , using as weights the total flux over the wavelength range  $\lambda_{\text{H}\alpha} \pm 3\sigma_{\text{H}\alpha}$  for each row of that bin. Finally, we convert the rest-frame H $\alpha$  line centres and errors into circular velocities to obtain the observed rotation curve  $V_{\text{obs}}(R'_i)$ , with uncertainties  $\sigma_{V,i}$ .

As desired,  $\sigma_{V,i}$  is roughly constant with radius. The 5th, 50th and 95th percentile values for  $\langle \sigma_{V,i} \rangle$  (averaged over all radii) are 0.86, 2.43 and 9.60 km s<sup>−1</sup>, respectively. Splitting each rotation curve at its turn-over radius  $R_{\text{TO}}$  (defined in equation 15 below), the  $\langle \sigma_{V,i} \rangle$ , averaged over the inner and outer regions, has median values of 2.96 and 2.10 km s<sup>−1</sup>, respectively (the 5th and 95th percentile values are similar to the full radial average as well).

### 6.3 Rotation curve fitting

Studies have shown that most observed disc galaxy rotation curves can be modelled by an arctangent model (Courteau 1997):

$$V_{\text{mod}}(R') = V_0 + \frac{2}{\pi} V_{\text{c,obs}} \arctan \left( \frac{R' - R_0}{R_{\text{TO}}} \right). \quad (15)$$

This model has four free parameters: the systemic velocity  $V_0$ , the asymptotic circular velocity  $V_{\text{c,obs}}$ , the spatial centre  $R_0$  and the turn-over radius  $R_{\text{TO}}$ , at which the rotation curve starts to flatten out. We denote the radius defined from the centre of the rotation curve as  $R = R' - R_0$ . Note that all the velocities above are not corrected for inclination.

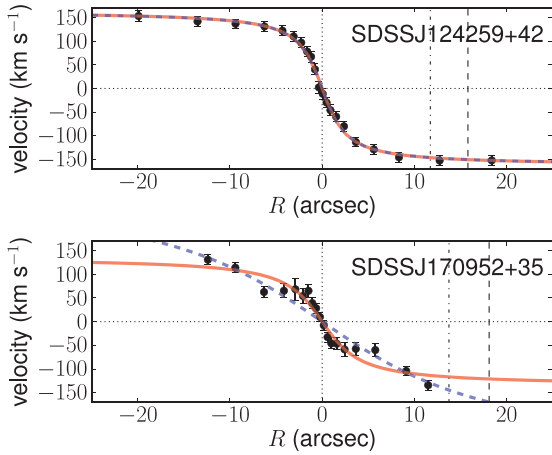
Using the Levenberg–Marquardt routine MPFIT in IDL, we find the best-fitting parameters by minimizing  $\chi^2$ , defined as

$$\chi^2 = \sum_i \frac{[V_{\text{mod}}(R'_i) - V_{\text{obs}}(R'_i)]^2}{\sigma_{\text{eff},i}^2}, \quad (16)$$

where the sum is over radial bins with sufficiently good S/N spectra ( $S/N > 5$  in the H $\alpha$  line), and the effective uncertainty in  $V_{\text{obs}}(R'_i)$  is defined to be  $\sigma_{\text{eff},i} = (\sigma_{V,i}^2 + \sigma_{V,\text{add}}^2)^{1/2}$ . Here,  $\sigma_{V,i}$  is the formal uncertainty from the Gaussian line fits (described in Section 6.2), and  $\sigma_{V,\text{add}}$  is an additional model uncertainty that accounts for non-circular motions in the galaxy. We set  $\sigma_{V,\text{add}} = 10 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , following P07, but note that the fits are not very sensitive to this choice. Averaging over all radii,  $\langle \sigma_{\text{eff},i} \rangle$  has 5th, 50th and 95th percentile values of 10.05, 10.37 and 14.89 km s<sup>−1</sup>, respectively.

<sup>14</sup> <http://iraf.noao.edu>

<sup>15</sup> <http://purl.com/net/mpfit>



**Figure 8.** Observed rotation curves for SDSSJ124259+42 and SDSSJ170952+35 (top and bottom panels, respectively), shown with the best-fitting arctangent models from both unweighted and radius-weighted schemes (solid red and blue dashed curves, respectively). Vertical lines mark characteristic radii,  $R = 0$ ,  $2.2R_d$ , and  $R_{80}$  (dotted, dot-dashed, and dashed lines, respectively).

We define the total uncertainty in a fit parameter  $P$  (e.g.  $V_{c,obs}$ ,  $R_{TO}$ , etc.) as

$$\sigma(P) = (\sigma_{fit}^2(P) + \sigma_{sys}^2(P))^{1/2}, \quad (17)$$

where the fit uncertainty  $\sigma_{fit}$  is the formal error from the  $\chi^2$  minimization fit and the systematic uncertainty  $\sigma_{sys}$  is given by

$$\sigma_{sys} = P - P^{(r)}, \quad (18)$$

where  $P^{(r)}$  is the result of repeating the fit with a radius-weighted scheme that gives greater weight to points at larger radii, i.e. replacing the denominator in equation (16) with  $(\sigma_{eff,i}^{(r)})^2 = (1/|R'|)\sigma_{eff,i}^2$ .

By adopting this definition of total uncertainties, to be used in our fits to the TFRs, we automatically downweight the contribution of those galaxies for which the flat part of the rotation curve is not well constrained (e.g. irregulars, galaxies in mergers and other peculiar cases). A large fit uncertainty indicates that  $V_{c,obs}$  is not well constrained because the S/N is low or because the observed rotation curve does not show a turn-over (i.e. it is still rising at the outermost point). On the other hand, a large systematic uncertainty indicates that  $V_{c,obs}$  is not well defined because the arctangent model is not a good model for the observed rotation curve.

For illustration, Fig. 8 shows the unweighted and radius-weighted fits (red solid and blue dashed curves, respectively) for two galaxies. The top panel shows the observed rotation curve of SDSSJ124259+42, a case where the two fits coincide, resulting in a small systematic uncertainty in  $V_{c,obs}$ . The bottom panel shows the peculiar rotation curve of SDSSJ170952+35, one of the few cases where the two fits disagree considerably, resulting in a large systematic uncertainty. In this extreme case,  $|\sigma_{sys}(V_{c,obs})/V_{c,obs}| = |(-157 \text{ km s}^{-1})/(135 \text{ km s}^{-1})| = 1.16$ . By comparison, the 5th, 50th and 95th percentile values of  $|\sigma_{sys}(V_{c,obs})/V_{c,obs}|$  for the child disc sample are 0.0035, 0.033 and 0.14, respectively.

Table 5 lists parameters from the arctangent model fits for the 189 galaxies in the child disc sample. We list the turn-over radii  $R_{TO}$  and inclination-corrected asymptotic circular velocities  $V_c$  and rotation velocity amplitudes  $V_{2.2}$  and  $V_{80}$  (defined in Section 6.4).  $R_{TO}$  is listed with total  $1\sigma$  uncertainties, while all rotation velocities are listed with both the total and formal fit  $1\sigma$  uncertainties (the latter

are inside parentheses). The table also lists inclination corrections  $\sin \theta$  and reduced  $\chi^2$  values of the fits.

The differences between the fit  $\chi^2$  values are not being driven by statistical (photon) noise, so their actual values do not carry the expected meaning. Instead, they are driven by systematic deviations from the arctangent model, due to asymmetry or ‘hooks’ in the observed rotation curve. So although the typical value of  $\chi^2/\nu$  is 0.25, a value larger than unity does not imply that the observed rotation curve is not globally well described by the arctangent model.

Figs 9–11 show folded, normalized and scaled rotation curves and best-fitting arctangent models for the 189 galaxies in the child disc sample. The rotation curves have been folded at the best-fitting spatial centre  $R_0$ , normalized by the asymptotic circular velocity  $V_c$ , and scaled by the disc scalelength  $R_d$ . Panels are labelled with a shortened galaxy name and  $R_{TO}/R_d$ . In all but two cases (1 per cent of the sample), the observed rotation curve can be adequately modelled on average by the arctangent model, albeit many galaxies show hooks. The only two exceptions are SDSSJ170952+35 (also shown in Fig. 8) and SDSSJ141026–00, for which the observed rotation curve turns over towards lower velocities instead of flattening out (see Fig. 10). The fits to these two galaxies have extremely poor  $\chi^2/\nu$  values of 2.5 and 21.6, respectively.

For the child disc sample, the median value of the total  $1\sigma$  uncertainty in  $\log V_c$  is 0.030 dex. As expected, this uncertainty decreases towards higher stellar masses (i.e. higher S/N data). The median values are 0.045, 0.029 and 0.020 dex for the bottom, intermediate and top 1/3 bins in  $M_*$ , respectively. If the systematic uncertainty is not included, the median value decreases to 0.024 dex for the full sample, and to 0.037, 0.024 and 0.015 dex, for the three  $M_*$  bins, respectively.

Fig. 12 shows the relation between stellar mass  $M_*$  and the ratio of the turn-over radius to disc scalelength,  $R_{TO}/R_d$ . We confirm that the most luminous galaxies tend to have very steeply rising rotation curves (e.g. Persic, Salucci & Stel 1996; Catinella, Giovanelli & Haynes 2006). At the other extreme, we find two outliers with  $R_{TO}/R_d > 5$  (SDSSJ080046+35 and SDSSJ120626+24). The rotation curves of both galaxies are observed out to their  $R_{80}$ , but are still rising at the outermost point.<sup>16</sup> Consequently, the asymptotic circular velocity is not well constrained, resulting in extremely large values of  $\sigma(V_c)$  of 960 and 605  $\text{km s}^{-1}$ , respectively, as well as largely overestimated values of  $V_c$ , equal to 398 and 457  $\text{km s}^{-1}$ , respectively.

#### 6.4 Rotation velocity amplitudes

We now define inclination-corrected rotation velocity amplitudes that we will use in the TFRs. In addition to the asymptotic circular velocity,  $V_c$ , we define rotation velocities evaluated at some suitably chosen optical radius  $R_{opt}$ . A common choice for  $R_{opt}$  is 2.2 times the disc scalelength  $2.2R_d$  (Courteau & Rix 1999), chosen because this is the radius at which the rotation curve of a pure self-gravitating exponential disc would peak (Freeman 1970). We also adopt  $R_{80}$ , following P07, the radius containing 80 per cent of the  $i$ -band flux. As noted in Section 4.3,  $R_{80}/R_d = 3.03$  for a pure exponential disc, but is smaller for galaxies with significant bulges. Both  $R_d$  and  $R_{80}$  have been corrected for the effect of seeing, but compared to  $R_d$ ,  $R_{80}$  has the advantage of being less sensitive to the degeneracies of the B+D fits. Moreover,  $R_{80}$  is closer to the peak of the total (disc+DM

<sup>16</sup> SDSSJ120626+24 appears to be a central galaxy of a group, which explains its rising rotation curve beyond its optical radius.

**Table 5.** Rotation curve fit parameters and rotation velocity amplitudes for the child disc sample (189 galaxies). The full version of this table is available as online Supporting Information.

Galaxy name	$\sin \theta$	$R_{\text{TO}}$ (arcsec)	$V_c$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> )	$V_{2.2}$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> )	$V_{80}$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> )	$\chi^2/\nu$
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
SDSS J001006.61–002609.7	0.9765	2.66 (0.47)	158.2 ± 10.8(5.7)	125.2 ± 5.7(1.0)	133.6 ± 6.9(2.1)	2.7
SDSS J001708.75–005728.9	0.8336	2.81 (0.98)	137.8 ± 16.9(12.8)	123.1 ± 13.5(6.9)	126.9 ± 14.1(8.4)	2.8
SDSS J002844.82+160058.8	1.0000	1.45 (0.68)	144.1 ± 16.7(15.2)	132.3 ± 9.9(8.2)	134.7 ± 11.3(9.6)	1.5
SDSS J003112.09–002426.4	0.8611	0.76 (0.22)	153.9 ± 9.3(7.3)	147.7 ± 8.6(5.5)	148.8 ± 8.7(5.8)	0.8
SDSS J004916.23+154821.0	0.8386	1.67 (0.34)	150.9 ± 12.2(1.9)	125.7 ± 13.4(0.7)	131.8 ± 12.9(1.0)	1.7
SDSS J004935.71+010655.2	1.0000	17.70 (1.52)	267.2 ± 11.0(1.3)	207.4 ± 14.4(0.4)	221.8 ± 13.9(0.6)	17.7
SDSS J011750.26+133026.3	0.9194	4.06 (0.92)	108.8 ± 11.5(2.4)	88.1 ± 7.9(1.6)	93.1 ± 9.0(1.8)	4.1
SDSS J012317.00–005421.6	0.9718	2.23 (0.57)	197.7 ± 13.1(11.4)	173.8 ± 7.2(4.8)	178.2 ± 8.3(6.0)	2.2
SDSS J012340.12+004056.4	0.9952	1.76 (0.24)	206.6 ± 8.6(6.1)	187.8 ± 6.1(3.6)	191.6 ± 6.6(4.1)	1.8
SDSS J012438.08–000346.5	0.9933	4.18 (0.42)	196.7 ± 7.3(2.3)	162.3 ± 9.4(0.6)	170.6 ± 9.1(1.0)	4.2

Notes. Rotation velocities (Columns 4–6) are listed with their  $1\sigma$  total (after the  $\pm$  symbol) and formal fit uncertainties (in parentheses). Column 1: SDSS name of galaxy. Column 2: inclination correction. Column 3: turn-over radius with  $1\sigma$  total uncertainty. Column 4: inclination-corrected asymptotic circular velocity. Column 5: inclination-corrected velocity amplitude at  $2.2R_d$ . Column 6: inclination-corrected velocity amplitude at  $R_{80}$ . Column 7: reduced  $\chi^2$  of the fit.

halo) rotation curve, which is located at  $\sim 3R_d$  for typical haloes of disc galaxies (Mo et al. 1998).

We follow convention and correct the disc rotation velocities to the edge-on orientation (assuming circular symmetry)<sup>17</sup>

$$V_c = V_{c,\text{obs}} / \sin \theta, \quad (19)$$

$$V_{2.2} = V_{2.2,\text{obs}} / \sin \theta = V(R = 2.2R_d) / \sin \theta, \quad (20)$$

$$V_{80} = V_{80,\text{obs}} / \sin \theta = V(R = R_{80}) / \sin \theta. \quad (21)$$

Here, the inclination corrections are given by

$$\sin \theta = \left( \frac{1 - q_z^2}{1 - q_z^2} \right)^{1/2}, \quad (22)$$

where  $q_z$  is the intrinsic axial ratio or the ratio of the vertical and radial scalelengths of the disc. Following P07, we adopt a single value for  $q_z = 0.19$  (Haynes & Giovanelli 1984), although it is known to vary slightly from disc to disc.<sup>18</sup>

Fig. 13 shows cumulative histograms in the ratios  $R_{\text{opt}}/R_{\text{last}}$  and  $V_{\text{rot}}/V_{\text{last}}$ , where  $R_{\text{last}}$  is the radius of the outermost point in the observed rotation curve, and  $V_{\text{last}}$  is the circular velocity at that radius based on the best-fitting arctangent model. We find that most of the observed rotation curves extend close to or beyond  $R_{80}$ , so a substantial extrapolation of the rotation curve is rarely required. Moreover,  $R_{80}$  is far enough out to be close to  $V_c$  in most cases. This is also evident in the panels of Figs 9–11, where  $R_{80}$  is marked by solid vertical bars. These results support the empirical logic of adopting the rotation velocity amplitude  $V_{80}$  (as in P07).

<sup>17</sup> Without assuming circular symmetry, the rotation velocity amplitudes would depend not only on inclination, but also on the orientation of the galaxy with respect to the line of sight. When we look down the long axis of gas orbits, the observed velocities are larger than when we look down the short axis. Deviations from circular symmetry and the variation in viewing angles contribute to the observed scatter in the TFRs (see Section 7.3 for further discussion).

<sup>18</sup> From analyses of the distribution of axial ratios of SDSS galaxies, Ryden (2004) found  $q_z = 0.22 \pm 0.06$  and Padilla & Strauss (2008) found  $q_z = 0.21 \pm 0.02$ .

Moreover,  $V_{80}$  is relatively insensitive to changes in the value of  $R_{80}$  because it samples the flat portion of the rotation curve in most cases. For example, even though  $R_{80}$  varies from 1.2 to  $1.4 \times (2.2R_d)$ ,  $V_{80}$  is within 10 per cent of  $V_{2.2}$  for most galaxies and is only 5 per cent larger on average. Therefore, the uncertainty in  $R_{80}$  or  $R_d$ , including, e.g., the effect of internal extinction<sup>19</sup> has a relatively small effect on the rotation velocity amplitudes.

To calculate the total error in  $V_{80}$ , we propagate the formal errors in the best-fitting model parameters using the full covariance matrix, then include a systematic uncertainty similar to that defined for the fit parameters (equation 18), as well as a contribution from the uncertainty in the inclination correction:

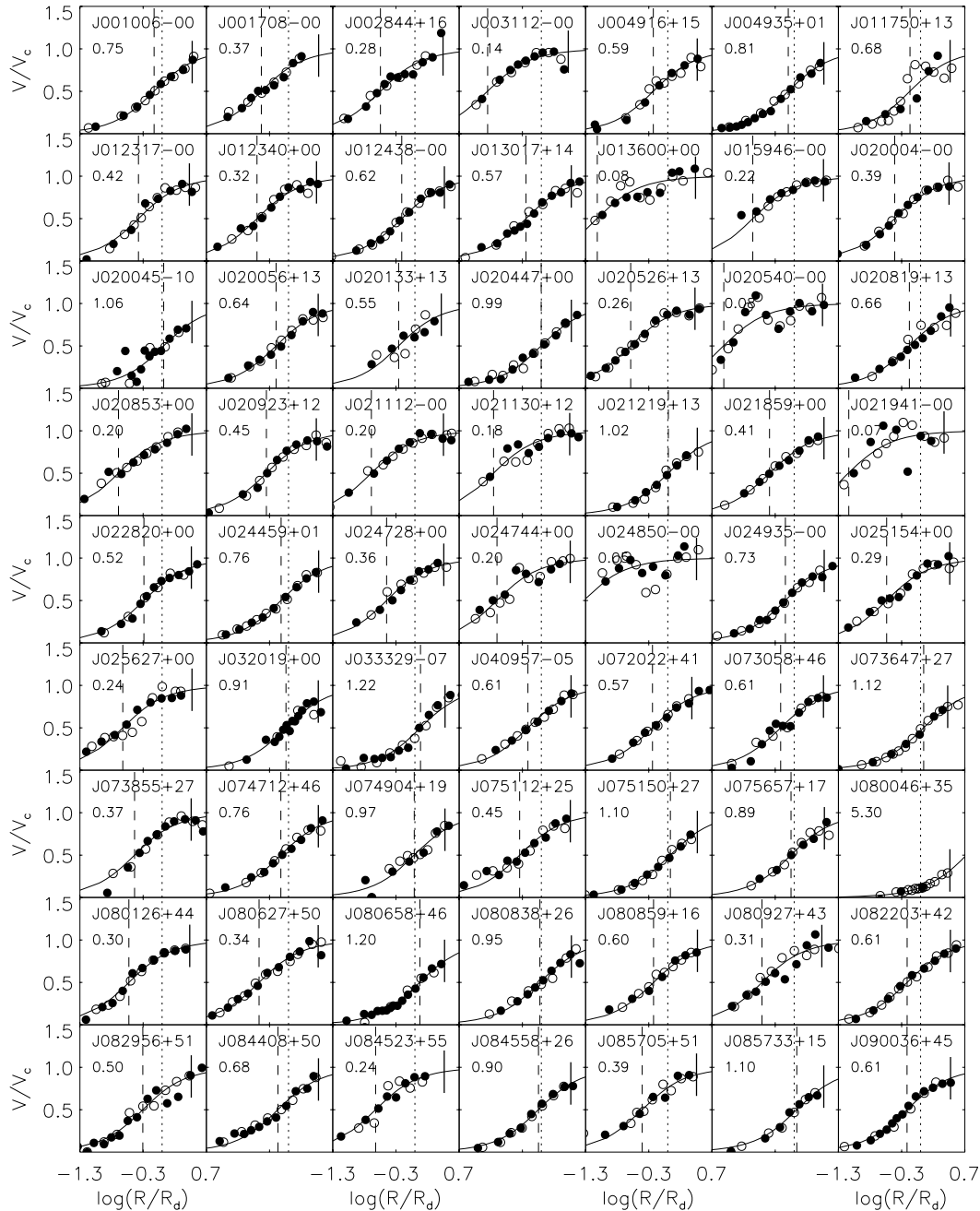
$$(\delta V_{80})^2 = \sum_{ij} \left( \frac{\partial V(R)}{\partial a_i} \right) \left( \frac{\partial V(R)}{\partial a_j} \right) \mathbf{C}_{ij} \bigg|_{R=R_{80}} \quad (23)$$

$$+ \left( V_{80} - V_{80}^{(r)} \right)^2 + (\delta(\sin \theta))^2. \quad (24)$$

Here,  $V(R)$  is the arctangent model function defined in equation (15), and  $a_i = \{V_0, V_c, R_0, R_{\text{TO}}\}$  are the fit parameters with the formal fit covariance matrix  $\mathbf{C}_{ij}$ ,  $V_{80}^{(r)}$  is the velocity amplitude at  $R_{80}$  for the best-fitting model derived from a fit using the radius-weighted scheme (cf. equation 18), and  $\delta(\sin \theta)$  is based on the formal fit error in  $q_d$ .  $\delta V_{2.2}$  is defined similarly.

The error in  $V_{80}$  is largely dominated by the formal fit error; the contribution from the formal inclination correction uncertainty is negligible. The systematic uncertainty in  $V_{80}$  is smaller than that in  $V_c$ , by approximately half. For the child disc sample, the 5th, 50th

<sup>19</sup> Some authors have corrected the observed disc scalelengths for internal extinction. We do not apply such corrections because the magnitude and even the sign of the correction, which depends on the spatial distribution of dust in the disc, is a priori unclear. Maller et al. (2009) found that more highly inclined late-type galaxies have larger half-light radii than face-on ones, indicating that attenuation of dust is stronger in the centre of galaxies. Courteau et al. (2007) applied a correction factor of  $(1 + 0.4 \log(a/b))^{-1}$ , following Giovanelli et al. (1997). This correction is at most 29 per cent, comparable to the difference between  $R_{80}$  and  $2.2R_d$ . The associated systematic bias in  $V_{80}$  is of the order of 10 per cent, comparable to the typical measurement uncertainty in  $V_{80}$ .



**Figure 9.** Normalized, folded and scaled rotation curves for 63 (out of the 189) galaxies in the child disc sample, sorted by the galaxy name. Velocities are scaled by the best-fitting asymptotic circular velocity  $V_c$ ; radii are scaled by the disc scalelength  $R_d$  and shown in a logarithmic scale from 0.05 to  $5R_d$ . Filled and open circles show opposite arms of the rotation curve, folded at the best-fitting spatial centre  $R_0$ . The solid curve shows the best-fitting arctangent model. Dashed and dotted lines mark  $R_{TO}$  and  $R_d$ , respectively, and the vertical bar marks  $R_{80}$ , the radius containing 80 per cent of the  $i$ -band galaxy light. Note that we define rotation velocity amplitudes at optical radii  $2.2R_d$  and  $R_{80}$ . Panels are labelled with the galaxy name and the ratio of the turn-over radius to the disc scalelength,  $R_{TO}/R_d$ . The rest of the galaxies are shown in Figs 10–11.

and 95th percentile values of  $\log V_{80}$  are 0.012, 0.027 and 0.10 dex, respectively. The errors in  $\log V_{2.2}$  are similar.

## 6.5 Tests of systematics

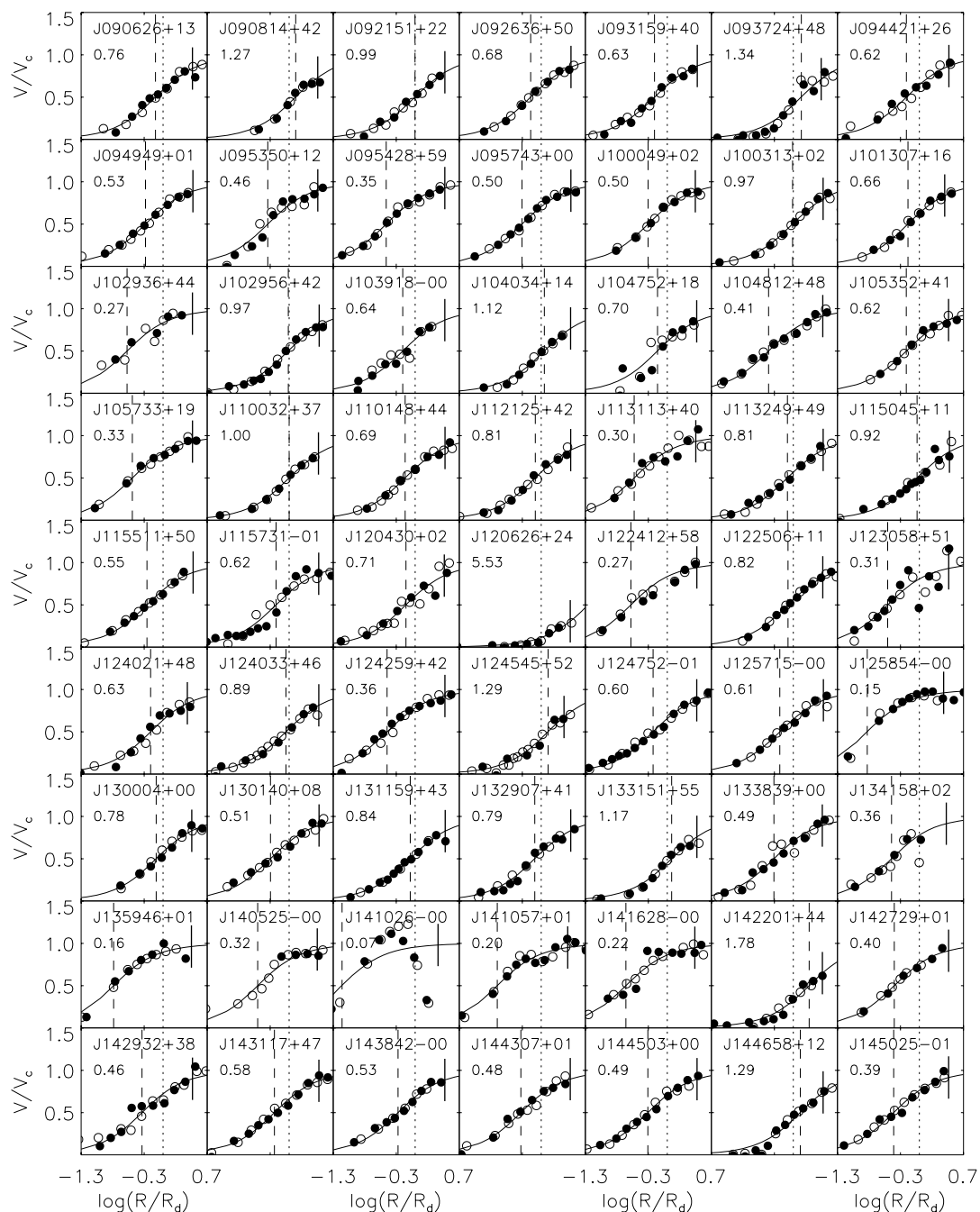
We now investigate potential systematic effects on the measured rotation curves. In Section 6.5.1, we look at the effect of slit misalignments by comparing observations at different slit PAs (along the minor axis and  $\pm 10^\circ$  off the major axis). In Section 6.5.2, we

look for any systematic differences between observations performed by P07 with CCDS/TWIN and those performed with DIS. In Section 6.5.3, we compare the best-fitting parameters from our rotation curve fits with those from P07.

### 6.5.1 Off-axis PA observations

We do not have a direct measurement of the kinematic major axis PA and rely on photometry to determine the major axis PA. The





**Figure 10.** Same as Fig. 9. Normalized, folded and scaled rotation curves for 63 galaxies in the child disc sample (two of three).

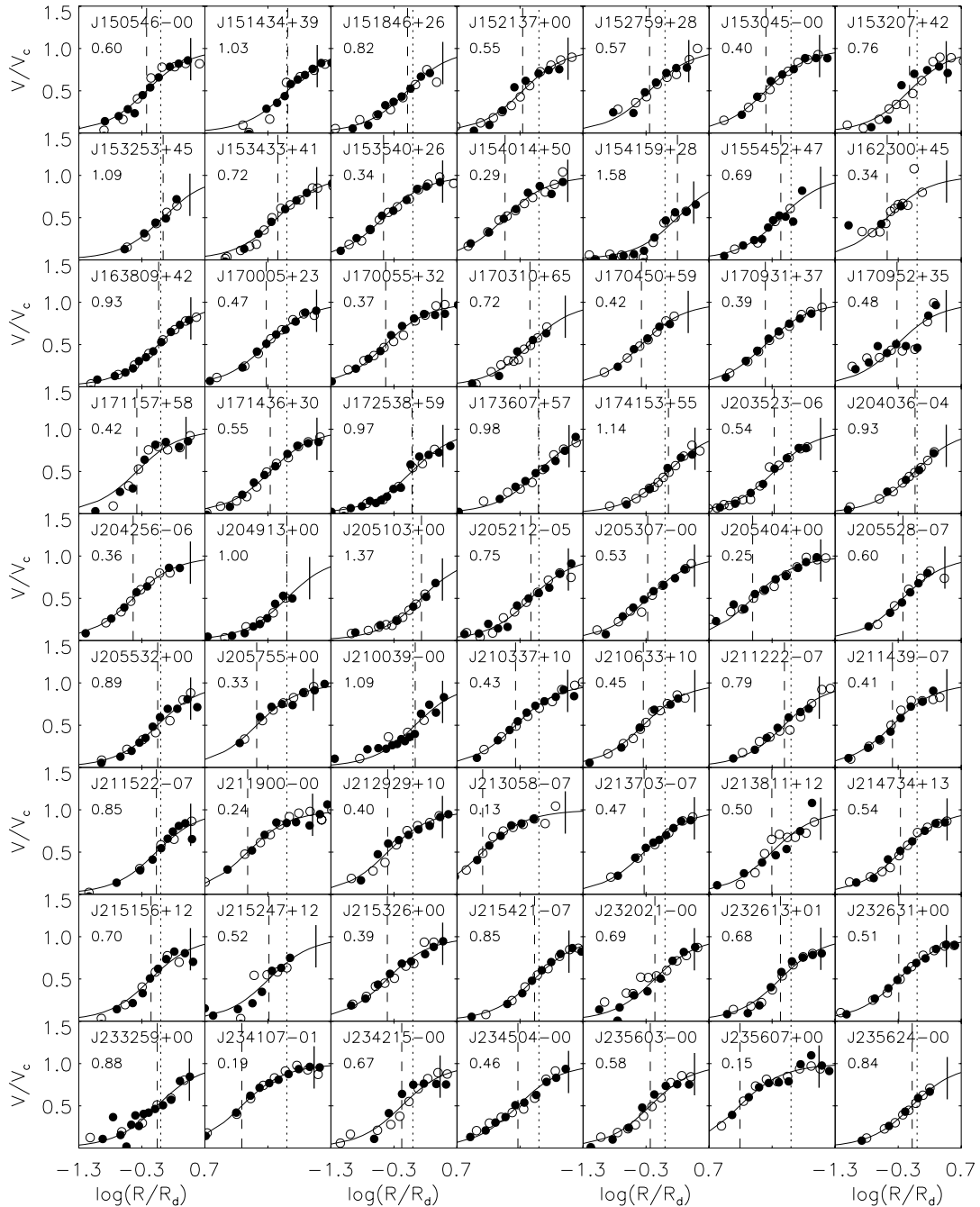
SDSS photometric pipeline provides three different measurements of the photometric major axis PA: (i) from the exponential and deVaucouleurs model fits, (ii) from ellipticity measurements at the 25 mag arcsec<sup>-2</sup> isophote and (iii) from flux-weighted adaptive second moments. The B+D fits performed in Section 4 provide another measurement of the disc major axis PA. The model and B+D fits account for the effect of the seeing, but the other two measurements do not.

If the velocity field is non-circular, the photometric major axis may be offset from the kinematic major axis. For a potential with an ellipticity of 0.1, the mean PA difference is 5° (averaged over

all viewing angles), roughly in agreement with the observed values (Franx & de Zeeuw 1992). In addition, there is some uncertainty in the determination of the photometric major axis PA itself. Comparing the different photometric major axis PA estimates, we find that except for one outlier – SDSSJ093724+48 – all galaxies in the child disc sample have an isophotal PA within  $\pm 11^\circ$ , and a B+D fit PA within  $\pm 6^\circ$ , of its exponential fit PA. Taking into account both effects, the typical level of PA offsets is expected to be  $\lesssim 10^\circ$ .

As the default configuration, we observed galaxies at the photometric major axis PA determined from the *r*-band exponential model fit performed by the SDSS photometric pipeline. This was





**Figure 11.** Same as Fig. 9. Normalized, folded and scaled rotation curves for 63 galaxies in the child disc sample (three of three).

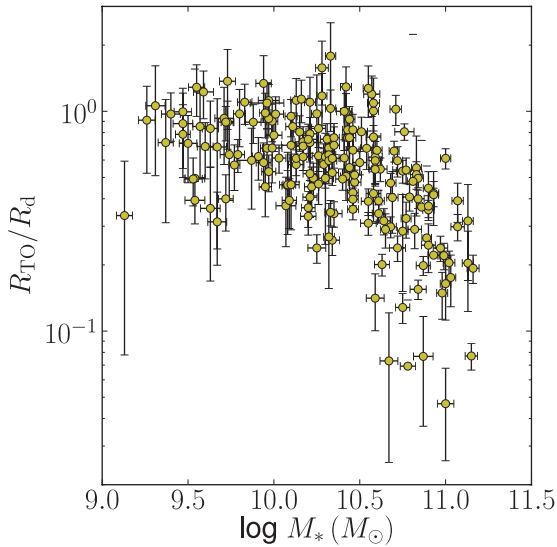
done for 86 out of the 95 targets, including SDSSJ093724+48. Seven galaxies<sup>20</sup> were observed at the *r*-band isophotal PA, and two galaxies<sup>21</sup> were observed at a PA determined by eye, which turn out to be within 3° of the exponential fit PA (and within 1° of the isophotal PA). All observed slit PAs are listed in Table 4.

For the outlier SDSSJ093724+48, a two-armed spiral, the ideal slit orientation is unclear (see the left panel of Fig. 14). We first

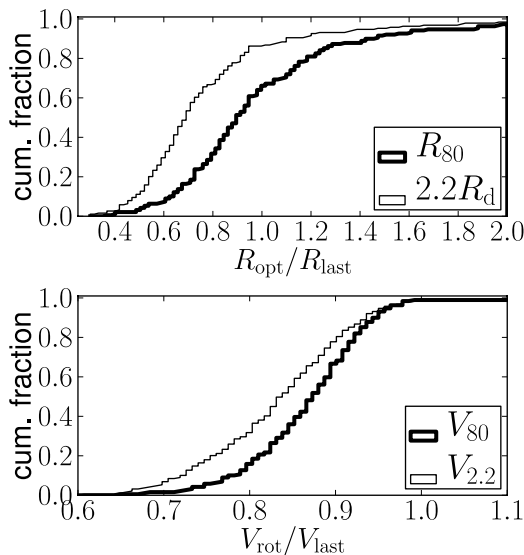
observed at the exponential fit PA of 15°:88 (blue rectangular box in Fig. 14), and then at an eye estimate for the galaxy major axis PA of 60°:9 (green rectangular box). The SDSS isophotal PA is 70°:9 (thick red line), 10° off the observed PA. The right-hand panel of Fig. 14 shows the rotation curves and best-fitting arctangent models for the two observations, obtained using procedures described in Sections 6.2 and 6.3. The slit orientation with PA = 60°:9 clearly yielded a larger rotation velocity amplitude, with a best-fitting asymptotic circular velocity (before inclination correction) of  $V_{c,obs} = 148 \pm 16 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , compared to  $41 \pm 7 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  for the other slit orientation. This orientation is therefore closer to the true major axis of the galaxy, and we adopt this observation in our final analysis.

<sup>20</sup> These galaxies are: SDSSJ110148+44, SDSSJ124021+48, SDSSJ131159+43, SDSSJ132907+41, SDSSJ133151+55, SDSSJ143117+47 and SDSSJ171157+58.

<sup>21</sup> These galaxies are SDSSJ142201+44 and SDSSJ151434+39.



**Figure 12.** Relation between the ratio of turn-over radius to disc scalelength  $R_{\text{TO}}/R_d$  and stellar mass  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  for 189 galaxies in the child disc sample. Two outlier galaxies – SDSSJ080046+35 and SDSSJ120626+24 – have  $R_{\text{TO}}/R_d > 5$  and lie beyond this plot.



**Figure 13.** Cumulative distributions of  $R_{80}/R_{\text{last}}$ ,  $2.2R_d/R_{\text{last}}$  (thick and thin curves in the upper panel, respectively) and  $V_{80}/V_{\text{last}}$  and  $V_{2.2}/V_{\text{last}}$  (thick and thin curves in the lower panel, respectively) for the child disc sample.

To check for a velocity gradient along the minor axis, a clear signature of non-circular motions, we observed two of our targets – SDSSJ144658+12 and SDSSJ154014+50 – along the minor axis, i.e. perpendicular to the observed major axis PA (blue and green rectangular boxes in the upper panels of Fig. 15 show the minor and major axis PAs, respectively). Fig. 16 presents the comparison between the minor and major axis rotation curves and best-fitting arctangent models (red circles/solid curves and blue stars/dashed curves, respectively).

For SDSSJ144658+12, the best-fitting parameters are  $V_{c,\text{obs}} = 181 \pm 17 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  and  $R_{\text{TO}} = 3.8 \pm 0.6 \text{ arcsec}$ , with a reduced  $\chi^2$  of 1.1. Fitting the minor axis rotation curve with  $R_{\text{TO}}$  fixed at

this value, we find  $V_{c,\text{obs}} = 18 \pm 29 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , consistent with zero (with a reduced  $\chi^2$  of 0.25). Performing a similar procedure for SDSSJ154014+50, we find  $V_{c,\text{obs}} = 151 \pm 6$  and  $19 \pm 6 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , with reduced  $\chi^2$  values of 0.57 and 0.32, for the major and minor axis observations, respectively. In this case, there is some evidence for rotation in the minor axis rotation curve, but only at 1/8 of the value of that for the major axis rotation curve.

To test the effect of slit misalignments on the inferred velocity amplitudes, we observed two of our targets – SDSSJ020526+13 and SDSSJ130140+08 – at  $\pm 10^\circ$  offsets from the observed major axis PAs (blue rectangular boxes in the lower panels of Fig. 15 show the offset slit PAs and green boxes show the major axis PA). In Fig. 17 the comparison between the observed rotation curves for the different slit orientations and the best-fitting arctangent models is shown. For both galaxies, one of the off-axis rotation curves has a slightly lower velocity amplitude compared to the other two (as expected if the major axis PA is well determined). Table 6 lists the best-fitting arctangent parameters for these observations, together with their formal  $1\sigma$  fit uncertainties. The rotation velocity amplitudes  $V_{80,\text{obs}}$  (Column 6) for the different observations are consistent to within  $1\sigma$ , indicating that this quantity is robust to slit PA offsets of the order of  $10^\circ$  (the expected level of slit misalignments, as noted earlier).

We conclude that slit misalignments are not expected to introduce a significant systematic bias in the TFR towards lower rotation velocity amplitudes. We note, though, that they are expected to contribute to the observed scatter in the relation (as discussed in Section 7.3).

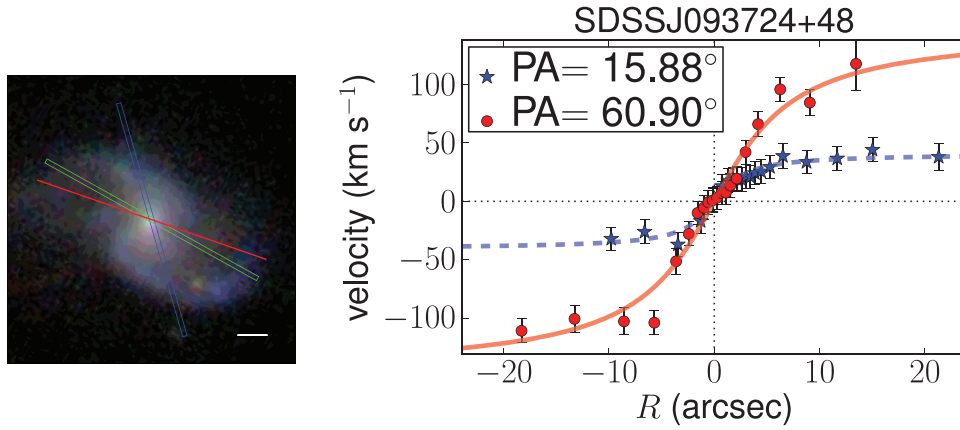
### 6.5.2 Comparison with P07 observations

Since the child disc sample combines long-slit spectroscopy observations taken using different instruments, it is important to check that this difference does not introduce any systematic bias in the derived kinematic quantities. For this purpose, we have randomly selected five out of the 99 galaxies from the P07 sample that satisfy our selection criteria, and re-observed them with DIS.

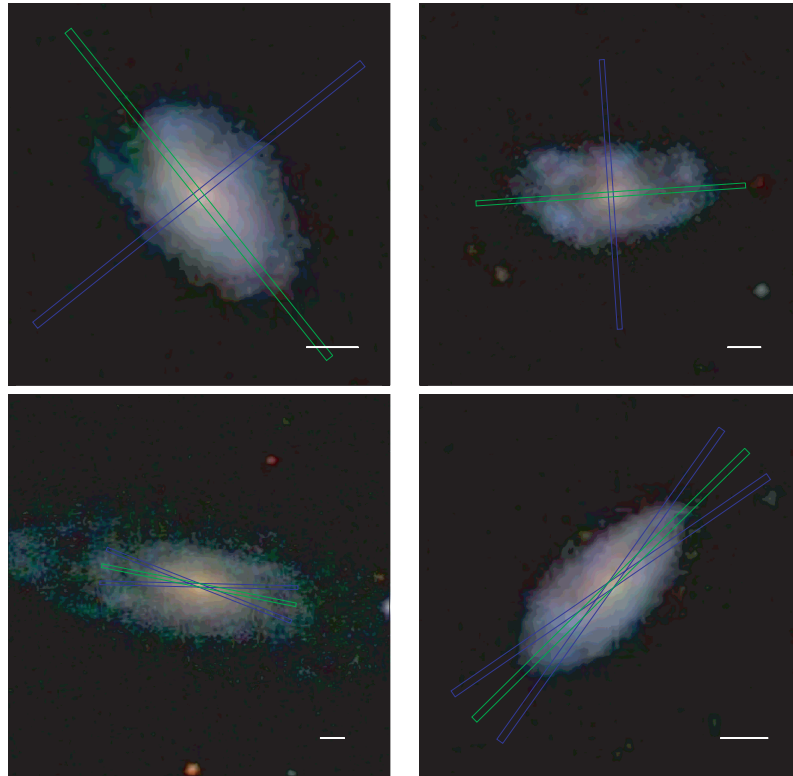
Fig. 18 compares the rotation curves and best-fitting arctangent models for these galaxies. There is a good match between the different observations (blue stars and dashed curve for TWIN or CCDS, and red circles and solid curve for DIS). For each galaxy, the best-fitting rotation curve from the DIS observation is consistent, to within a few  $\sigma$ , with the observed rotation velocities from the TWIN or CCDS observation and vice versa.

Table 7 lists the best-fitting arctangent model parameters, together with their  $1\sigma$  formal fit uncertainties, for the different observations. The rotation velocity amplitudes  $V_{80,\text{obs}}$  (Column 6) for the different observations are consistent to within  $1\sigma$  for four out of the five galaxies. The exception is SDSSJ020540–00, for which the arctangent fits are affected by hooks in the rotation curve (evident around 5 arcsec). Focusing on the outer arms, it is clear that the rotation curve data themselves are consistent with one another.

In detail, the shapes of the rotation curves differ from one another, as reflected in the differences in the best-fitting  $R_{\text{TO}}$ . This is especially apparent for SDSSJ024459+01 and SDSSJ152137+00, in which the differences in  $R_{\text{TO}}$  are 50 and 40 per cent, respectively. This difference can be attributed to differences in seeing conditions. We conclude that there is no evidence for any systematic bias between the long-slit spectroscopy observations performed by us and P07.



**Figure 14.** Left-hand panel: SDSS image of the galaxy SDSSJ093724+48, the only case where the exponential fit and isophotal PAs are significantly different. We observed this galaxy at two slit positions: the  $r$ -band exponential fit PA (E of N) of  $15^{\circ}88$  (blue rectangular box) and at an eye estimate of the galaxy major axis PA of  $60^{\circ}9$  (green rectangular box). The isophotal PA of  $70^{\circ}9$  is also shown for reference (thick red line). In this image, north is up and east is towards the left; the horizontal line on the lower right corner is 5 arcsec long; the green box is  $1.5 \text{ arcsec} \times 40 \text{ arcsec}$  (the actual slit covers  $1.5 \text{ arcsec} \times 2 \text{ arcmin}$ , so its length spans the whole extent of the galaxy). Right-hand panel: rotation curves observed at the two slit PAs shown in the left-hand panel. The observation at  $\text{PA} = 60^{\circ}9$  yields a best-fitting asymptotic circular velocity 3.6 times larger than that for the observation at  $\text{PA} = 15^{\circ}88$  (red circles and solid curve versus blue stars and dashed curve), a strong indication that this PA is closer to the true major axis of the galaxy; therefore, we adopt it in our final analysis.



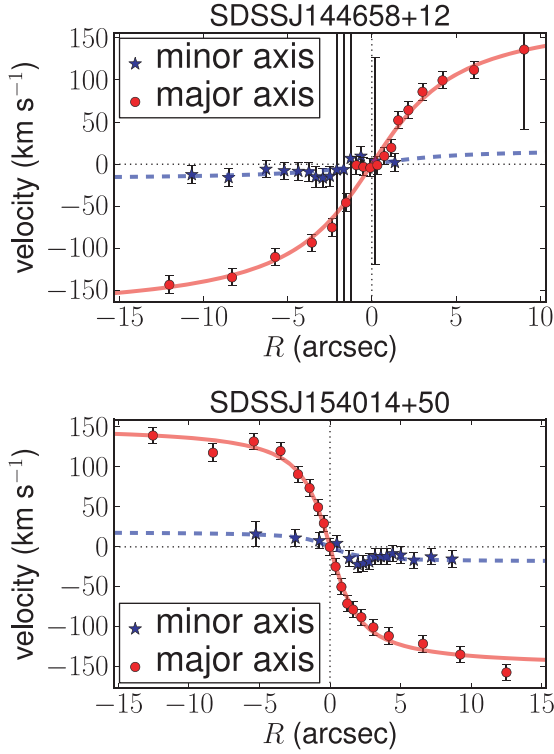
**Figure 15.** SDSS images of four galaxies with off-axis slit PA observations. Here, green rectangular boxes indicate the major axis PAs, and blue boxes indicate the off-axis slit PAs. As in Fig. 14, north is up and east is towards the left; the horizontal line on the lower right corner is 5 arcsec long; green rectangles are  $1.5 \text{ arcsec} \times 40 \text{ arcsec}$ . Upper panels: SDSSJ144658+12 and SDSSJ154014+50 were observed along the minor axis PA (blue rectangular boxes). Lower panels: SDSSJ020526+13 and SDSSJ130140+08 were observed at  $\pm 10^{\circ}$  off the major axis PA (blue rectangular boxes).

### 6.5.3 Comparison with P07 rotation curve fits

In this section, we compare our best-fitting arc tangent model parameters –  $V_{c,\text{obs}}$  and  $R_{\text{TO}}$  – with those published in P07, for 157 galaxies in the P07 sample (99 of which are in our child disc sample). We use the long-slit spectroscopy observations of P07, but perform

our own analysis of the data to extract and fit rotation curves. The comparison of our results with theirs provides an estimate of the level of systematic differences that can arise from different analysis methods.

Fig. 19 shows the differences between P07 measurements and ours,  $\Delta(\log X) = (\log X)^{(\text{P07})} - \log X$ , where  $X = \{R_{\text{TO}}, V_{c,\text{obs}},$



**Figure 16.** Major and minor axis rotation curves for SDSSJ144658+12 and SDSSJ154014+50 observed along the minor axis, i.e. at  $90^\circ$  off the major axis (blue stars and dashed curves), compared to those observed along the major axis (red circles and solid curves).

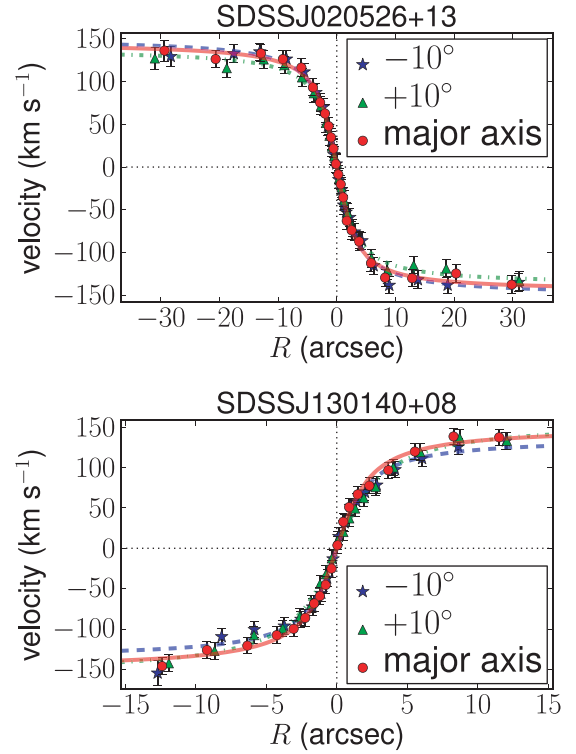
$V_{80}$ ,  $\sin \theta$  (top to bottom panels). 19 out of the 157 galaxies have  $|\Delta V_{c, \text{obs}}| > 2\sigma(V_{c, \text{obs}})$  (marked by red circles in all panels), and for almost all of them,  $\Delta V_{c, \text{obs}} < 0$ . We surmise that the reason for this is that our extracted rotation curves tend to extend out farther than those of P07, which led to lower (i.e. less overestimated)  $V_{c, \text{obs}}$ . As expected, we find that the differences in  $V_{80}$  are smaller than those in  $V_{c, \text{obs}}$ , explicitly illustrating the relative robustness (and therefore advantage) of this choice of velocity amplitude. Finally, we note that differences in the estimated disc axial ratios led to differences in  $V_{80}$  as large as  $\sim 0.05$  dex (see the bottom panel). Both we and P07 used two-dimensional bulge–disc decompositions to determine disc axial ratios, but our fits were performed on images from a more recent SDSS reduction. We use our own fitting routine (described in Section 4), while P07 used the publicly available code *GALFIT* (Peng et al. 2002).

Later in Section 9.5, we compare the TFRs derived from our and P07’s measurements. We find that the  $M_i$ – $V_{80}$  relations are consistent within the reported  $1\sigma$  uncertainties, indicating that our results are robust to systematic differences between the analysis pipelines.

## 7 DERIVATION OF TFRS

In this section, we describe our derivation of the scaling relation between the disc rotation velocity  $V_{\text{rot}}$  and some photometric quantity  $\mathcal{O}$ . The different photometric quantities we consider – absolute magnitudes  $M_\lambda$ , synthetic magnitudes  $M_{\text{syn}}$ , stellar masses  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  and  $M_{\star, \text{MPA}}$ , and baryonic masses  $M_{\text{bar}}$  – were defined in Section 5.

We aim to identify the ‘optimal’ photometric estimator of disc rotation velocity, calibrate it and characterize its scatter, using the child disc sample (189 galaxies). The photometric estimates can then be



**Figure 17.** Rotation curves for SDSSJ020526+13 and SDSSJ130140+08 observed at  $\pm 10^\circ$  off the major axis (green triangles and dot-dashed curves, and blue stars and dashed curves, respectively), compared to those observed along the major axis (red circles and solid curves).

applied to the full (spectroscopic) parent disc sample ( $\sim 170\,000$  galaxies), and potentially, to an even larger photometric galaxy sample.

We describe the modelling and fitting of the TFRs in Sections 7.1 and 7.2, respectively. In Section 7.3, we describe how the fits should be interpreted. Results of the fits will be presented in the next two sections, Sections 8 and 9.

### 7.1 Modelling the TFRs

Since we are mainly interested in calibrating photometric estimators of disc rotation velocities, we will focus on fits to the so-called ITFRs, in which the rotation velocity is the dependent variable ( $y \equiv \log V_{\text{rot}}$ ) and the photometric quantity is the independent variable ( $x \equiv \mathcal{O} = \{M_\lambda, M_{\text{syn}}, \log M_{\star, \text{Bell}}, \log M_{\star, \text{MPA}}, \log M_{\text{bar}}\}$ ). Fits to the different ITFRs will be presented in Section 8.

For each photometric quantity  $\mathcal{O}$ , we model the ITFR as a linear relation with an intrinsic Gaussian scatter of width  $\tilde{\sigma}$  in  $\log V_{\text{rot}}$ :

$$\log V_{\text{rot}} = a + b \times (M_\lambda - M_{\lambda, \text{p}}), \quad (25)$$

$$\log V_{\text{rot}} = a + b \times (M_{\text{syn}} - M_{\text{syn, p}}). \quad (26)$$

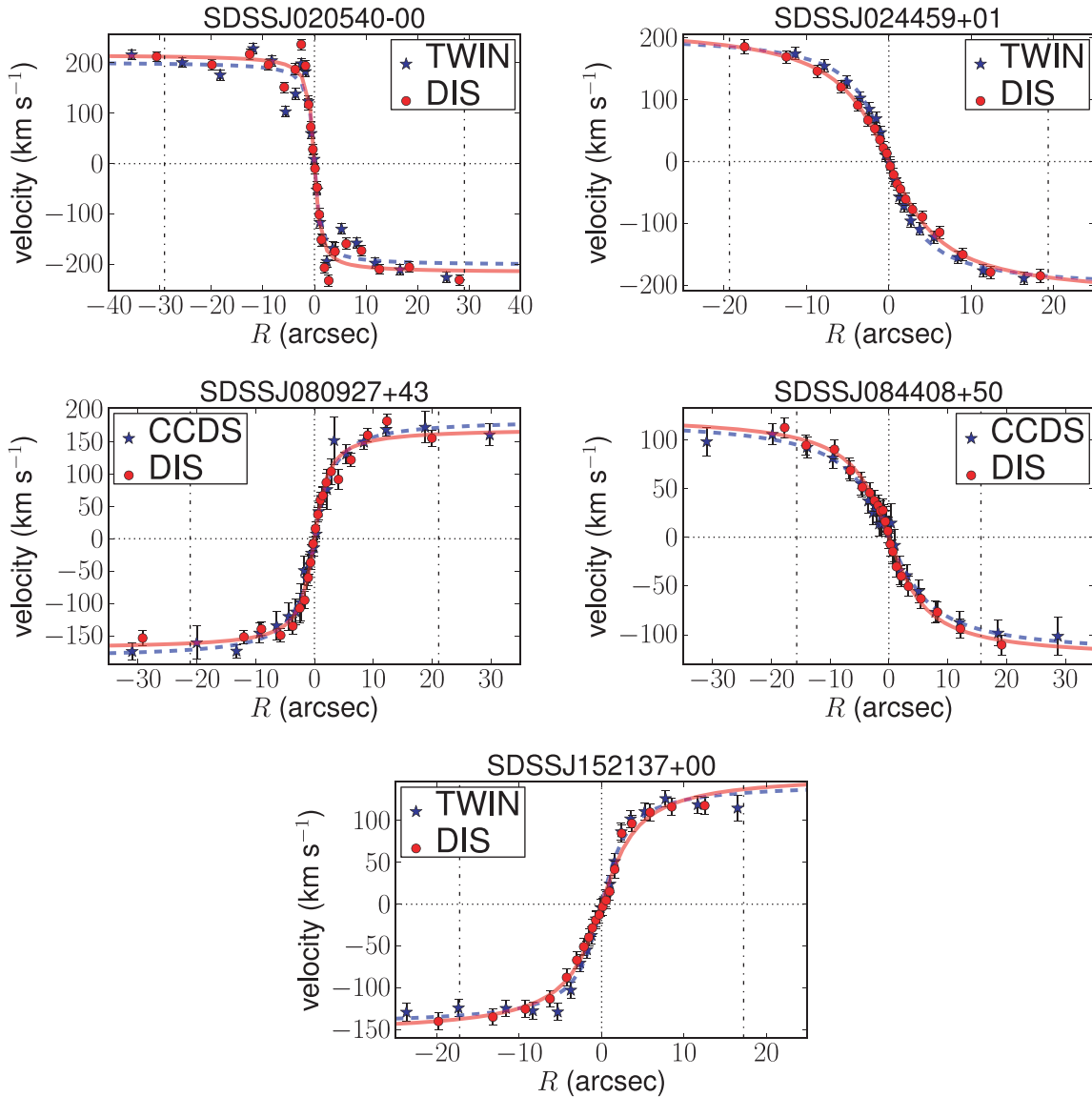
$$\log V_{\text{rot}} = a + (-2.5b) \times (\log M_\star - \log M_{\star, \text{p}}). \quad (27)$$

Here,  $a$  is the zero-point,  $b$  is the slope and  $\mathcal{O}_p$  is the pivot value of the ITFR. Both  $a$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}$  have units of  $\log(\text{km s}^{-1})$  and  $b$  has units of  $\log(\text{km s}^{-1}) \text{mag}^{-1}$ . We will refer to the slope of the ITFR as steeper (shallower) if  $b$  is more (less) negative. In most cases, we set the pivot value  $\mathcal{O}_p$  to be the weighted mean of the fit sample. Doing so makes the covariance between the error in  $a$  and the error

**Table 6.** Rotation curve fits for targets with both major axis and off-axis observations (two galaxies).

Galaxy name	Slit PA (deg)	$V_{c,obs}$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> )	$R_{TO}$ (arcsec)	$R_{80}$ (arcsec)	$V_{80,obs}$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> )	$\chi^2/\nu$
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
SDSSJ020526+13	78.57	$144.9 \pm 5.0$	$2.43 \pm 0.26$	25.27	$136.0 \pm 4.8$	0.27
—	68.57	$149.6 \pm 5.3$	$2.69 \pm 0.29$	—	$139.5 \pm 5.1$	0.36
—	88.57	$137.1 \pm 5.4$	$2.58 \pm 0.31$	—	$128.2 \pm 5.1$	0.22
SDSSJ130140+08	-45.43	$149.8 \pm 6.4$	$1.78 \pm 0.21$	10.49	$133.8 \pm 6.0$	0.41
—	-55.43	$136.6 \pm 6.7$	$1.72 \pm 0.23$	—	$122.4 \pm 6.3$	0.71
—	-35.43	$157.1 \pm 8.1$	$2.50 \pm 0.32$	—	$133.7 \pm 7.4$	0.26

Notes. Column 1: Galaxy name. Column 2: slit PA in degrees east of north. The first line is the major axis PA; the next two lines are offsets by  $\pm 10^\circ$ . Column 3: best-fitting observed asymptotic circular velocity  $V_{c,obs}$ . Column 4: best-fitting turn-over radius  $R_{TO}$ . Column 5: radius containing 80 per cent of the *i*-band light. Column 6: velocity amplitude evaluated at  $R_{80}$ , before inclination correction,  $V_{80,obs}$ . Column 7: reduced  $\chi^2$  of the fit. Columns 3, 4 and (6) are listed with their formal  $1\sigma$  fit errors (not including systematic uncertainties).



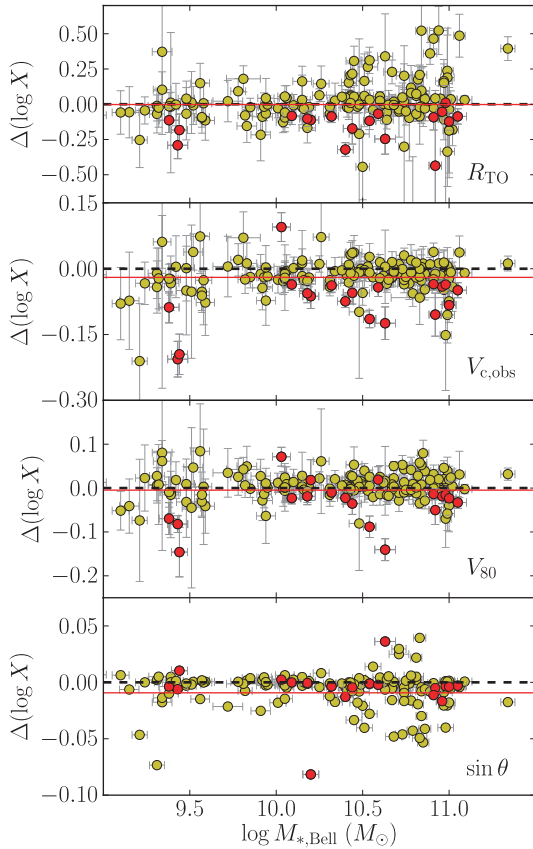
**Figure 18.** Comparison of rotation curves obtained from DIS (red circles) and P07 TWIN and CCDS observations (blue stars). Best-fitting arctangent models are shown in red solid and blue dashed curves, respectively. Dot-dashed vertical lines mark  $R_{80}$ , the radius enclosing 80 per cent of the *i*-band light, at which the rotation velocity amplitude  $V_{80}$  is defined.



**Table 7.** Rotation curve fits for targets with observations from both P07 (CCDS/TWIN) and DIS (five galaxies).

Galaxy name	Instru. (deg)	$V_{c,obs}$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> )	$R_{TO}$ (arcsec)	$R_{80}$ (arcsec)	$V_{80,obs}$ (km s <sup>-1</sup> )	$\chi^2/\nu$
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
SDSSJ020540–00	DIS	216.2 ± 3.6	0.80 ± 0.06	29.13	212.4 ± 3.5	8.33
–	TWIN	201.7 ± 3.5	0.85 ± 0.07	–	198.0 ± 3.5	10.11
SDSSJ024459+01	DIS	221.9 ± 10.2	4.93 ± 0.49	19.35	186.6 ± 9.2	0.36
–	TWIN	206.3 ± 8.8	3.20 ± 0.32	–	184.8 ± 8.1	0.53
SDSSJ080927+43	DIS	170.1 ± 5.6	1.77 ± 0.21	15.66	157.9 ± 5.2	1.31
–	CCDS	184.4 ± 7.2	2.42 ± 0.36	–	166.4 ± 6.0	0.38
SDSSJ084408+50	DIS	125.3 ± 9.5	4.83 ± 0.83	21.12	107.4 ± 11.1	0.36
–	CCDS	121.9 ± 10.4	5.72 ± 1.13	–	101.4 ± 13.3	0.26
SDSSJ152137+00	DIS	155.6 ± 8.1	3.29 ± 0.41	17.24	136.9 ± 7.4	0.85
–	TWIN	144.7 ± 6.0	2.29 ± 0.27	–	132.5 ± 5.7	1.14

Notes. Columns are the same as in Table 6, except for Column 2; here, we list the instrument used for the observation.



**Figure 19.** Comparison between our measurements and those from P07 for 157 galaxies in the P07 sample (filled circles). Panels show  $\Delta(\log X)$ , where  $X$  is as labelled, from top to bottom: rotation curve fit parameters  $R_{TO}$  and  $V_{c,obs}$ , inclination-corrected rotation velocity  $V_{80}$  and inclination corrections  $\sin \theta$ . The error bars shown are our derived  $1\sigma$  measurement uncertainties. Galaxies for which  $|\Delta V_{c,obs}|$  is greater than  $2\sigma(V_{c,obs})$  are marked by red circles in all panels (19 galaxies or 12 per cent of the sample). Horizontal red solid lines mark mean values ( $\Delta(\log X)$ ); black dashed lines mark the zero axis.

in  $b$  negligible (in other words, changing the value of  $b$  by its  $1\sigma$  uncertainty does not change the best-fitting value of  $a$ ).

For completeness, we also consider forward TFRs, in which the independent variable  $y \equiv \mathcal{O}$  and the dependent variable  $x \equiv \log V_{rot}$ . Fits to the forward TFRs will be presented in Section 9.3.

For each photometric quantity, we model the forward TFR as a linear relation with an intrinsic Gaussian scatter of width  $\tilde{\sigma}_{fwd}$  in  $\mathcal{O}$ :

$$M_\lambda = a_{fwd} + b_{fwd} \times \log(V_{rot}/V_{rot,p}), \quad (28)$$

$$M_{syn} = a_{fwd} + b_{fwd} \times \log(V_{rot}/V_{rot,p}), \quad (29)$$

$$\log M_\star = a_{fwd} + (-0.4b_{fwd}) \times \log(V_{rot}/V_{rot,p}). \quad (30)$$

Here, both the zero-point  $a_{fwd}$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}_{fwd}$  have units of mag, and the slope  $b_{fwd}$  has units of  $\text{mag} (\log (\text{km s}^{-1}))^{-1}$ . To directly compare the results of the forward and inverse fits, we convert the forward fit parameters to the equivalent inverse fit parameters:  $a_{conv} = \log V_{rot,p} + (\mathcal{O}_p - a_{fwd})/b_{fwd}$ ,  $b_{conv} = 1/b_{fwd}$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}_{conv} = \tilde{\sigma}_{fwd}/b_{fwd}$ . These converted parameters have the same units as  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}$ , as defined in equations (25)–(27).

Note that even in the ideal case in which there is zero uncertainty in the data, fits to the forward and ITFRs will not necessarily yield the same relation. Moreover, fits to the forward TFRs are subject to the Malmquist bias due to our sample selection cuts on absolute magnitude (in contrast, fits to the ITFRs are not affected by this bias). The inverse and forward fit directions assume different underlying models and must be interpreted accordingly. In most classical TFR studies, forward fits were used to obtain distance measurements, based on the luminosities derived from the disc rotation velocities. In this work, we use fits to the ITFRs to obtain photometric estimators of disc rotation velocities.

## 7.2 Fitting the TFRs

We perform weighted maximum likelihood fits to the inverse and forward TFRs, defined by equations (25)–(27) and (28)–(30), respectively. First, we describe how we assign weights to each galaxy. Then, we define the likelihood function used to determine the fit parameters and the bootstrap re-sampling method used to estimate their uncertainties. Finally, we describe the two-step method for fitting the TFRs for synthetic magnitudes  $M_{syn}$ .

We assign to each galaxy a weight according to its stellar mass, so that the effective SMF of the fit sample matches that of the parent disc sample. Weights are given by the nearest integer to  $100 \times w_{\text{samp}}(M_{\star, \text{Bell}})$ , where

$$w_{\text{samp}}(M_{\star}) = \frac{N_{\text{parent}}(M_{\star})}{N_{\text{parent}}} \frac{N_{\text{samp}}}{N_{\text{samp}}(M_{\star})}. \quad (31)$$

Here,  $N_{\text{parent}} = 169\,563$  galaxies,  $N_{\text{samp}}$  is the total number of galaxies in the fit sample, and  $N_{\text{parent}}(M_{\star})$  and  $N_{\text{samp}}(M_{\star})$  are the numbers of galaxies in the stellar mass bin containing  $M_{\star}$ , for the parent disc sample and the fit sample, respectively. We use logarithmic stellar mass bins of width  $\approx 0.21$  dex.

We find that the child disc sample SMF deviates from the parent disc sample SMF only at the lowest and highest stellar mass bins, with  $w_{\text{samp}} \approx 2$  for galaxies with stellar masses below  $10^{9.4} M_{\odot}$  and  $w_{\text{samp}} \approx 1/2$  for stellar masses above  $10^{10.9} M_{\odot}$ . In contrast, the P07 disc sample SMF is significantly different from that of the parent disc sample, especially for the highest stellar mass bins where  $w_{\text{samp}} \approx 0.1$ .

The full data set, with repeats, consists of a total of  $N = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{samp}}} \text{round}(100w_j)$  pairs of measurements,  $\hat{x}_i$  and  $\hat{y}_i$ , with measurement errors  $\sigma_{x,i}$  and  $\sigma_{y,i}$ . Assuming that these errors are uncorrelated, and that the measurements are normally distributed around their true values,  $x$  and  $y$ , with Gaussian widths given by their respective measurement errors, then the log-likelihood function is given by

$$-\ln \mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \ln (\tilde{\sigma}^2 + \sigma_{y,i}^2 + b^2 \sigma_{x,i}^2) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{[\hat{y}_i - (a + b\hat{x}_i)]^2}{(\tilde{\sigma}^2 + \sigma_{y,i}^2 + b^2 \sigma_{x,i}^2)} + K, \quad (32)$$

where  $K$  is a constant.

We determine the three best-fitting parameters,  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}$ , by maximizing equation (32) using the Levenberg–Marquardt routine `mpfit2dfun` in `IDL` (Markwardt 2009). Then, we calculate the  $1\sigma$  uncertainty in each parameter using bootstrap re-sampling. We generate 500 sample realizations by randomly drawing  $N$  galaxies with replacement. We perform fits to each realization and check that the distributions in the bootstrap parameters are approximately Gaussian.

To fit for the TFRs for synthetic magnitudes,  $M_{\text{syn}}$ , we first have to fix the coefficient  $\alpha$  in its definition (cf. equation 8). To do this, we adopt a four-parameter model

$$\log V_{\text{rot}} = a_2 + b_2[M_{\lambda} - M_{\lambda, p_2} + \alpha \times (\text{colour})], \quad (33)$$

with a Gaussian intrinsic scatter of width  $\tilde{\sigma}_2$  in  $\log V_{\text{rot}}$ . The likelihood function for this model is defined analogously to equation (32). Minimizing the likelihood function yields the best-fitting coefficient  $\alpha$ , and bootstrap re-sampling yields its  $1\sigma$  uncertainty. Finally, the fits to the inverse and forward  $M_{\text{syn}}$  TFRs are determined from equations (26) and (29), respectively, in a similar manner as for  $M_{\lambda}$ , as described above.

We present results of weighted TFR fits in Sections 8 and 9. In practice, though, we find that unweighted fits yield almost identical results. This is not surprising because, as noted above, the SMFs of the child and parent disc samples are not significantly different. Therefore, for simplicity, we have not used weights in fits for the coefficient  $\alpha$  in  $M_{\text{syn}}$ , nor in the calculations performed in subsequent sections (Sections 10 and 11).

### 7.3 Interpreting the TFR scatter

Our TFR models include a Gaussian intrinsic scatter of width  $\tilde{\sigma}$ . In addition, we define the measured scatter,  $\sigma_{\text{meas}}$ , to be the rms (root mean square) of the TFR residuals  $(\Delta y)_i = \hat{y}_i - [a + b \times (\hat{x}_i - x_p)]$ . In the simplest case, in which the measurement errors  $\sigma_{x,i}$  and  $\sigma_{y,i}$  are equal for all galaxies, and in which our assumptions regarding the Gaussian distributions for  $\hat{x}_i$  and  $\hat{y}_i$  hold,  $\sigma_{\text{meas}}^2 = \tilde{\sigma}^2 + \sigma_{y,i}^2 + (b\sigma_{x,i})^2$ . In other words, the measured scatter can be attributed partly to the measurement uncertainties for individual galaxies and partly to the intrinsic scatter in the ITFR itself. Note, though, that what we have defined to be the ‘intrinsic scatter’ in the TFR,  $\tilde{\sigma}$ , actually includes contributions from other sources of observational scatter that we have not formally accounted for in the measurement uncertainties, including errors in inclinations, slit PA misalignments and intrinsic disc ellipticities.

As noted in Section 6.5.1, ellipticities in the potential in the plane of the disc  $\epsilon_{\Phi}$  lead to non-circular motions and differences between the kinematic and photometric major axis PAs. They also lead to a dependence of the inclination correction on the viewing angle.<sup>22</sup> Observations indicate that  $\epsilon_{\Phi} \approx 0.1$  (Ryden 2006; Padilla & Strauss 2008, and references therein), which in turn translate into an expected scatter in the (forward) TFR of 0.46 mag, even if kinematic major axis PAs were used (Franx & de Zeeuw 1992). The expected scatter will be larger if photometric major axis PAs were used, as is the case in most TFR studies, including ours. In Section 12.2, we compare the observed scatter in the TFR with the expected contributions from these systematic effects.

## 8 CALIBRATED ITFRS

In this section, we present weighted fits to the ITFRs for the 189 galaxies in the child disc sample using different photometric quantities  $\mathcal{O} = \{M_{\lambda}, M_{\text{syn}}, \log M_{\star, \text{Bell}}, \log M_{\star, \text{MPA}} \text{ and } \log M_{\text{bar}}\}$  (all defined in Section 5) and rotation velocity amplitudes  $V_{80}$  (defined in Section 6.4). These calibrated ITFRs provide photometric estimators of disc rotation velocities applicable to the parent disc sample. The procedure for obtaining these fits has been described in a previous section, Section 7. Alternative fits will be presented in the next section, Section 9.

### 8.1 $M_{\lambda}$ ITFRs

Table 8 lists the best-fitting parameters  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}$  for the calibrated  $M_{\lambda}$  ITFR, for five SDSS bands, from weighted fits to the child disc sample (189 galaxies). Also, listed are the pivot value  $x_0 = M_{\lambda, p}$ , which has been set equal to the weighted mean of  $M_{\lambda}$ , and the measured scatter  $\sigma_{\text{meas}}$  (defined in Section 7.3).

We confirm previous studies and find that the amount of scatter in the ITFR (both intrinsic and measured) systematically decreases towards redder bands. Among the SDSS bands, we choose the  $i$  band to be the optimal one, as it yields a tighter ITFR relation than the bluer bands (in addition to being less affected by dust extinction). The scatter in the  $z$ -band ITFR is similar, but this band has noisier photometry.

<sup>22</sup> If  $\epsilon_{\Phi} \ll 1$ , the true inclination correction is  $\sin \theta(1 - \epsilon_{\Phi} \cos 2\phi)$  instead of  $\sin \theta$ , for a viewing angle  $(\theta, \phi)$  (Franx & de Zeeuw 1992).



**Table 8.** Calibrated  $M_\lambda$  ITFRs for the child disc sample (189 galaxies) with  $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{80}$ .

$y$ (1)	$x$ (2)	$x_0$ (3)	$a$ (4)	$b$ (5)	$\tilde{\sigma}$ (6)	$\sigma_{\text{meas}}$ (7)
$\log V_{80}$	$M_u$	−18.731	2.188 (0.026)	−0.080 (0.009)	0.114 (0.011)	0.114
–	$M_g$	−19.903	2.142 (0.006)	−0.129 (0.008)	0.068 (0.008)	0.082
–	$M_r$	−20.375	2.142 (0.005)	−0.130 (0.007)	0.056 (0.007)	0.071
–	$M_i$	−20.558	2.142 (0.005)	−0.128 (0.006)	0.049 (0.007)	0.066
–	$M_z$	−20.649	2.142 (0.005)	−0.119 (0.005)	0.049 (0.007)	0.065

Notes. Column 1:  $y$  is the dependent variable of the ITFR or  $\log V_{\text{rot}}$ . Column 2:  $x$  is the independent variable of the ITFR or  $\mathcal{O}$ . Column 3:  $x_p$  is the pivot value for  $x$ , equal to the weighted mean of the fit sample. Columns 4–6: best-fitting ITFR parameters and their  $1\sigma$  uncertainties, as defined in equations (25)–(27):  $a$  is the zero-point, in units of  $\log (\text{km s}^{-1})$ ,  $b$  is the slope in units of  $\log (\text{km s}^{-1}) \text{mag}^{-1}$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}$  is the intrinsic Gaussian scatter in units of  $\log (\text{km s}^{-1})$ . Column 7:  $\sigma_{\text{meas}}$  is the measured scatter in the ITFR, defined to be the rms of the ITFR residuals  $(\Delta y)_i = y_i - [a + b \times (x - x_p)]$ .

**Table 9.** Calibrated  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFRs for the child disc sample (189 galaxies) with  $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{80}$ , where  $M_{\text{syn}} = M_\lambda + \alpha \times (g - r)$ .

$\lambda$ (1)	Colour (2)	$\alpha^{\text{Bell}}$ (3)	$\alpha$ (4)	$x_p$ (5)	$a$ (6)	$b$ (7)	$\tilde{\sigma}$ (8)	$\sigma_{\text{meas}}$ (9)
$g$	$g - r$	−3.80	−4.09 (0.91)	−22.172	2.159 (0.004)	−0.105 (0.004)	0.034 (0.006)	0.056
$r$	$g - r$	−2.74	−3.25 (0.72)	−22.211	2.160 (0.004)	−0.105 (0.004)	0.035 (0.005)	0.056
$i$	$g - r$	−2.16	−2.42 (0.86)	−21.965	2.160 (0.004)	−0.107 (0.004)	0.035 (0.006)	0.056
$z$	$g - r$	−1.72	−2.28 (1.04)	−21.987	2.160 (0.004)	−0.101 (0.004)	0.036 (0.006)	0.057

Notes. Columns 1–2: band  $\lambda$  and colour in the synthetic magnitude  $M_{\text{syn}} = M_\lambda + \alpha \times (\text{colour})$ . Column 3:  $\alpha^{\text{Bell}}$  is the coefficient of the colour correction in the Bell et al. (2003) stellar mass-to-light ratio estimates for this band and colour. Column 4: best-fitting coefficient  $\alpha$  and its  $1\sigma$  uncertainty. Column 5:  $x_p$  is the pivot value for  $x = M_{\text{syn}}$ . Columns 6–8: best-fitting ITFR parameters and their  $1\sigma$  uncertainties:  $a$  is the zero-point, in units of  $\log (\text{km s}^{-1})$ ,  $b$  is the slope in units of  $\log (\text{km s}^{-1}) \text{mag}^{-1}$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}$  is the intrinsic Gaussian scatter in units of  $\log (\text{km s}^{-1})$ . Column 9:  $\sigma_{\text{meas}}$  is the measured scatter in the ITFR, defined to be the rms of the ITFR residuals  $(\Delta y)_i = y_i - [a + b \times (x - x_p)]$ .

## 8.2 $M_{\text{syn}}$ ITFRs

Table 9 lists the best-fitting parameters for the calibrated  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFRs. We find that regardless of the choice of the absolute magnitude band, the amount of intrinsic and measured scatter for the  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFRs is the same (0.035 and 0.056 dex in  $\log V_{80}$ , respectively). The zero-points and slopes are consistent with one another as well. We find that the  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFRs have smaller intrinsic scatter than the  $M_\lambda$  ITFRs, by at least  $2\sigma$ ; their measured scatter are also smaller. We conclude that synthetic magnitudes are better photometric estimators of disc rotation velocities than single-band optical absolute magnitudes.

Table 9 also shows the best-fitting coefficients  $\alpha$  (Column 4) in the definition of synthetic magnitudes  $M_{\text{syn}} = M_\lambda + \alpha \times (g - r)$ . These are to be compared with the coefficients based on the colour-based estimates of  $M_\star/L_\lambda$  from Bell et al. (2003),  $\alpha^{\text{Bell}}$  (Column 3). For each band  $\lambda$ , we find that the best-fitting  $\alpha$  is within  $1\sigma$  of  $\alpha^{\text{Bell}}$ . These colour corrections extrapolate towards a redder band, so that the synthetic magnitudes approximate stellar masses. We find similar results when using colours other than  $g - r$ . These results suggest that stellar mass is indeed a more fundamental parameter than luminosity in the TFR. Moreover, they provide independent support for the reliability of these colour-based stellar mass-to-light ratios (Kannappan, Fabricant & Franx 2002 arrived at similar conclusions regarding the earlier Bell & de Jong 2001 stellar mass-to-light ratios).

## 8.3 $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$ , $M_{\star, \text{MPA}}$ and $M_{\text{bar}}$ ITFRs

Table 10 lists the best-fitting parameters for calibrated ITFRs for stellar mass estimates,  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  and  $M_{\star, \text{MPA}}$ , and for baryonic mass estimates,  $M_{\text{bar}}$ . As expected from the systematic difference between  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  and  $M_{\star, \text{MPA}}$  (see Fig. 6 in Section 5.4.3), the former has a pivot value higher by 0.15 dex, corresponding to a lower normalization in  $\log V_{\text{rot}}$ , of 0.04 dex (at fixed  $M_\star$ ). The  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  ITFR is steeper than the  $M_{\star, \text{MPA}}$  ITFR at  $>4\sigma$  level. Their intrinsic and measured scatter are similar to each other and to the  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFR. These results confirm our earlier conclusion (in Section 8.2) that colour-based stellar mass estimates are a good tracer of disc rotation velocity.

Compared to the  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  and  $M_{\star, \text{MPA}}$  ITFRs, the  $M_{\text{bar}}$  ITFR has larger intrinsic and measured scatter. True baryonic mass is expected to trace the disc rotation velocity more faithfully than stellar mass alone, since both the stellar and gas mass contribute to the total disc potential. However, we do not find this to be the case for these baryonic mass estimates. Moreover, based on the increasing trend in gas mass fraction as stellar mass decreases, one would expect the baryonic ITFR to have a shallower slope than the stellar mass ITFR; contrary to this expectation, we find a best-fitting slope that is steeper by  $\sim 3\sigma$ . We conclude that  $M_{\text{bar}}$  is not an optimal photometric estimator for disc rotation velocities. In other words, the relation between  $u - r$  colour and gas-to-stellar mass ratios (equation 14), on which our baryonic mass

**Table 10.** Calibrated  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$ ,  $M_{\star, \text{MPA}}$  and  $M_{\text{bar}}$  ITFRs for the child disc sample (189 galaxies) with  $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{80}$ .

$y$ (1)	$x$ (2)	$x_p$ (3)	$a$ (4)	$b$ (5)	$\tilde{\sigma}$ (6)	$\sigma_{\text{meas}}$ (7)
$\log V_{80}$	$M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$	10.102	2.142 (0.004)	−0.111 (0.004)	0.036 (0.005)	0.056
–	$M_{\star, \text{MPA}}$	9.952	2.140 (0.004)	−0.093 (0.004)	0.034 (0.006)	0.056
–	$M_{\text{bar}}$	10.355	2.144 (0.005)	−0.127 (0.006)	0.053 (0.007)	0.071

Notes. Columns are the same as in Table 8.

estimates are based, is not tight enough for our purposes (unlike the colour– $M_{\star}/L$  relations on which our stellar mass estimates are based).

#### 8.4 Comparison of $M_i$ , $M_{\text{syn}}$ and $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$ ITFRs

In this subsection, we compare three good photometric estimators of disc rotation velocity, choosing one of each type we consider, namely:  $M_i$ ,  $M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)$  and  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$ . Table 11 puts together the fit results from Tables 8–10 for easier comparisons. Fig. 20 shows the observed relations (filled circles with  $1\sigma$  error bars), the best-fitting ITFRs (thick solid lines) and the amounts of intrinsic scatter in the relations (upper and lower dashed lines are displaced by  $\pm 1\tilde{\sigma}$  from the mean relation). Note that  $M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r) = M_i - 2.42(g-r)$  (cf. Table 9).

We find that adding colour information to luminosity, in  $M_{\text{syn}}$  and  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$ , reduces the amount of scatter in the ITFR. In Fig. 21, we directly compare the  $M_i$  and  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFRs (black inverted triangles and lines versus red upright triangles and lines, respectively), with each pair of data points connected galaxy by galaxy. The flattening of the slope from one relation to the other is expected from the colour–luminosity relation: brighter galaxies are redder and therefore have larger colour corrections than fainter galaxies. The reduction in the scatter can also be explained similarly: outliers that lie well above the  $M_i$  ITFR relation (in particular, those with  $\log V_{80} \gtrsim 2.3$ ) tend to be redder and have larger colour corrections, putting them closer to the mean  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFR.

Among these photometric quantities, we choose  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  to be the optimal photometric estimator of disc rotation velocity. It yields one of the tightest relations among those we have considered. It has a natural physical interpretation, as an estimate of stellar mass. Finally, it is straightforward to determine from photometry (as a simple linear combination of absolute magnitude and colour).

Before we end this section, we study the distribution of residuals from these ITFRs. Visual inspection of the panels of Fig. 20 indicates that the amount of scatter in the ITFRs varies over the full range in  $\mathcal{O}$  in all three cases. In particular, the relation seems to be tightest for intermediate values of  $\mathcal{O}$ . To investigate further, we study the normalized residuals  $\Delta(\log V_{\text{rot}})_i / \sigma_{T,i}$ , where the numerator is the offset of a galaxy’s measured rotation velocity from the

best-fitting ITFR, and the denominator is the ‘total scatter’ associated with that galaxy, defined as a combination of its measurement errors and the intrinsic scatter for the full ensemble,

$$\sigma_{T,i}^2 = \tilde{\sigma}^2 + \sigma_{y,i}^2 + (b\sigma_{x,i})^2. \quad (34)$$

We find that the contribution from the uncertainty in the rotation velocity is the dominant term: for the child disc sample,  $\langle \sigma_y^2 \rangle^{1/2} = 0.063$  and  $\langle \sigma_T^2 \rangle^{1/2} = 0.081$ , 0.073 and 0.073, for the  $M_i$ ,  $M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)$  and  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  ITFRs, respectively. The contribution from  $\sigma_{x,i}$  is always negligible because it is heavily downweighted by the coefficient  $b^2 \approx 0.01$ .

Fig. 22 shows distributions of the normalized residuals from the  $M_i$ ,  $M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)$  and  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  ITFRs (histograms in the top, middle and bottom panels, respectively). For comparison, Gaussian distributions of unit width and of width equal to the standard deviation (s.d.) of the distribution are also shown (dashed and solid curves, respectively). The leftmost panels show distributions for the full child disc sample and the other panels show distributions for the faint (low- $M_{\star}$ ), intermediate and bright (high- $M_{\star}$ ) bins (from left to right).

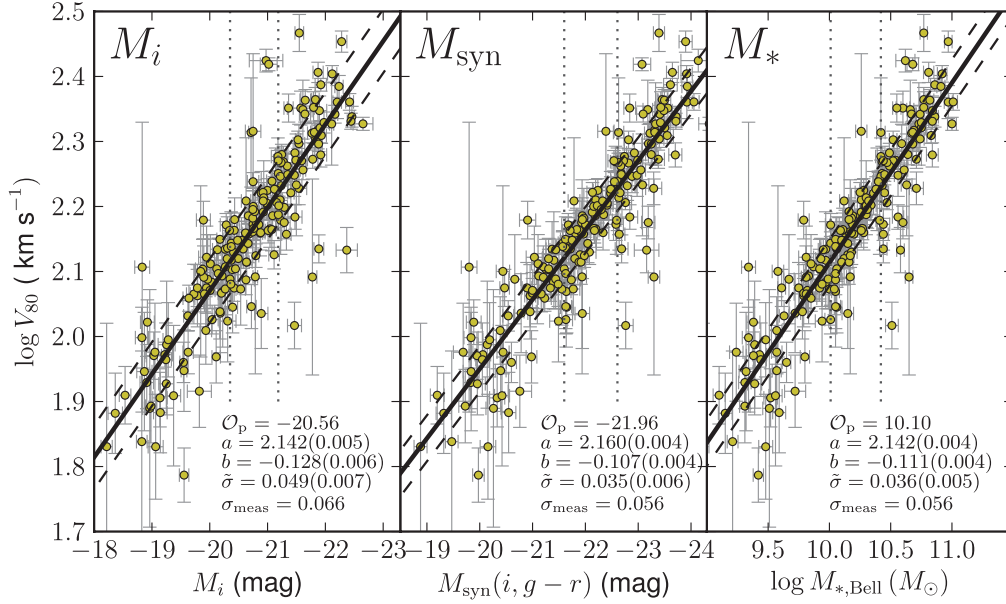
We expect that the distributions for the full sample would be Gaussians of unit width. We find that the distribution widths are indeed close to unity, although the distributions are more centrally peaked than a Gaussian (leftmost panels in Fig. 22). We find that the distribution widths vary with stellar mass and luminosity. The intermediate bins have the narrowest distributions, with s.d. values less than unity. On the other hand, the bright/high- $M_{\star}$  bins have the widest distributions, with s.d.  $\approx 1.3$ . These galaxies have better S/N measurements, and therefore tend to have smaller measurement errors on average (with  $\langle \sigma_T^2 \rangle^{1/2} = 0.05$ , compared to the sample mean of 0.08). The faint/low- $M_{\star}$  bins have the largest absolute residuals, but those galaxies also have the largest measurement errors.

It is interesting to compare the distributions for the  $M_i$  ITFR on the one hand, and the  $M_{\star}$  and  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFRs on the other. We find that the reduction in scatter when going from  $M_i$  to  $M_{\star}$  (or  $M_{\text{syn}}$ ) can be mostly attributed to galaxies in the middle bin, with the s.d. of the distribution in normalized residuals dropping from 0.8 for  $M_i$  to 0.7 for  $M_{\text{syn}}$  (or  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$ ).

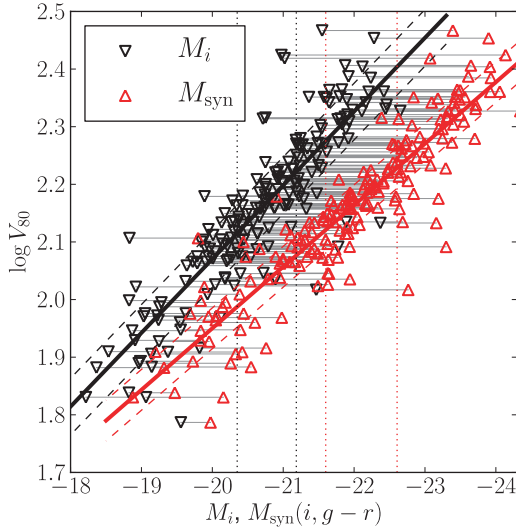
**Table 11.** Calibrated  $M_i$ ,  $M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)$  and  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  ITFRs for the child disc sample (189 galaxies) with  $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{80}$  (compiled from Tables 8–10).

$y$ (1)	$x$ (2)	$x_p$ (3)	$a$ (4)	$b$ (5)	$\tilde{\sigma}$ (6)	$\sigma_{\text{meas}}$ (7)
$\log V_{80}$	$M_i$	−20.558	2.142 (0.005)	−0.128 (0.006)	0.049 (0.007)	0.066
–	$M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)$	−21.965	2.160 (0.004)	−0.107 (0.004)	0.035 (0.006)	0.056
–	$M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$	10.102	2.142 (0.004)	−0.111 (0.004)	0.036 (0.005)	0.056

Notes. Columns are the same as in Table 8.



**Figure 20.** ITFRs between rotation velocities  $V_{80}$  and photometric quantities  $\mathcal{O} = \{M_i, \log M_*, \text{ and } M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)\}$  (left-hand, middle and right-hand panels, respectively). Observations for the 189 galaxies in the child disc sample are shown as filled circles with  $1\sigma$  error bars. Thick solid lines show the best-fitting ITFRs and dashed lines indicate the amount of intrinsic scatter (they are displaced by  $\pm\tilde{\sigma}$  from the mean relations). Vertical dotted lines divide the sample into three bins of roughly equal number. Labels list the pivot values  $\mathcal{O}_p$ , best-fitting parameters – zero-point  $a$ , slope  $b$ , intrinsic scatter  $\tilde{\sigma}$  – of the ITFR and measured scatter  $\sigma_{\text{meas}}$  in  $\log V_{80}$ .



**Figure 21.** Comparison between  $M_i$  and  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFRs (black inverted triangles and lines versus red upright triangles and lines, respectively). Pairs of points for every galaxy are connected by grey horizontal lines. The amount of intrinsic scatter in the ITFRs is indicated by the dashed lines, which are displaced by  $\pm\tilde{\sigma}$  from the mean relations. Vertical dotted lines divide the sample into three equal bins in  $M_i$  and  $M_{\text{syn}}$  (black and red dotted lines, respectively).

## 9 ALTERNATIVE TFR FITS

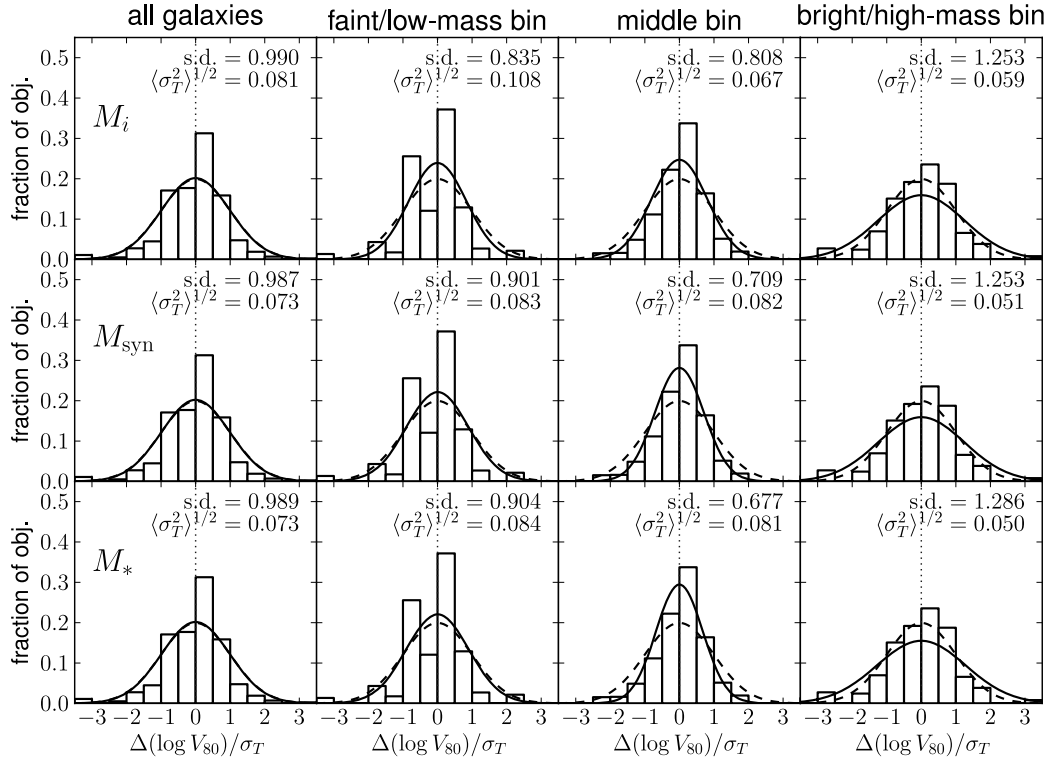
In this section, we present fits to the ITFR with alternative rotation velocity definitions (Section 9.1), alternative internal extinction corrections (Section 9.2) and alternative fit directions (Section 9.3). In the final two subsections, we present fits to alternative galaxy samples: disc-dominated galaxies (Section 9.4) and P07 galaxies (Section 9.5).

### 9.1 Alternative $V_{\text{rot}}$ amplitudes

In Section 8, we have presented ITFR fits with  $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{80}$ , our default rotation velocity amplitude definition. Now, we present ITFR fits with alternative rotation velocities  $V_{2.2}$  (the rotation velocity evaluated at a radius  $2.2R_d$ ) and  $V_c$  (the asymptotic rotation velocity of the best-fitting arctangent model). Table 12 shows the best-fitting parameters for the  $M_i$ ,  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  and  $M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)$  ITFRs for  $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{2.2}$  and  $V_c$ . We find that  $\alpha$  is robust to the choice of rotation velocity definition, and consistent with the Bell et al. (2003) coefficient  $\alpha^{\text{Bell}} = -2.16$  (as is the case for  $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{80}$ ).

The panels of Fig. 23 compare the  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  ITFR with  $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{80}$  (red solid and dashed lines, on both left- and right-hand panels), with the observed ITFRs with  $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{2.2}$  and  $V_c$  (black solid and dashed lines in the left- and right-hand panels, respectively). As expected from the systematic difference between the  $V_{2.2}$  and  $V_{80}$ , the zero-point of the  $V_{2.2}$  ITFR is 0.02 dex (5 per cent) lower than that of the  $V_{80}$  ITFR. The slope of the ITFR is slightly steeper for the former, but only by  $\sim 1\sigma$ . The amounts of intrinsic and measured scatter are similar for the two relations. These results confirm our earlier assertion (in Section 6.4) that the ITFR fits are relatively insensitive to the choice of rotation velocity amplitude definition for reasonable choices for the optical (i.e. evaluation) radius.

In contrast to  $V_{80}$  and  $V_{2.2}$ , using  $V_c$  as the rotation velocity involves extrapolation well beyond the observed rotation curve. This can lead to systematic overestimation of the disc rotation velocity, especially in galaxies with large turn-over radii (i.e. slowly rising rotation curves). We find that the best-fitting  $V_c$  ITFR has a significantly higher zero-point, shallower slope and larger intrinsic scatter than the  $V_{80}$  ITFR. The right-hand panel of Fig. 23 shows that the two relations coincide at the high-mass end. This is consistent with our observation that the highest  $M_*$  galaxies have small turn-over radii (i.e. steeply rising rotation curves) and consequently  $V_c/V_{80}$  ratios close to unity (see Fig. 12).



**Figure 22.** Distribution of normalized residuals  $\Delta(\log V_{80})/\sigma_T$  for the  $M_i$ ,  $M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)$ , and  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  ITFRs (top, middle and bottom panels, respectively). For each galaxy,  $\sigma_{T,i} = (\bar{\sigma}^2 + \sigma_{y,i}^2 + b^2 \sigma_{x,i}^2)^{1/2}$  is the total scatter, defined to be the root square sum of the intrinsic scatter in the ITFR and the galaxy's measurement error. We show distributions for the full child disc sample (left-most panels), as well as for the sample split into three bins in  $M_i$ ,  $M_{\text{syn}}$  and  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  (rest of the panels; increasing in luminosity/stellar mass from left to right). Each panel is labelled by the s.d. of the distribution (s.d.) and the rms value of  $\sigma_T$ . A Gaussian of width equal to the measured s.d. is shown by a solid curve, and one with unit width is shown by a dashed curve, for comparison (the two curves overlap in the leftmost panels).

**Table 12.** Calibrated  $M_i$ ,  $M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)$  and  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  ITFR fits for the child disc sample (189 galaxies) with  $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{80}$ ,  $V_{2.2}$  and  $V_c$ .

y	x	$x_p$	a	b	$\bar{\sigma}$	$\sigma$
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
$\log V_{80}$	$M_i$	-20.558	2.142 (0.005)	-0.128 (0.006)	0.049 (0.007)	0.066
–	$M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)$	-21.965	2.160 (0.004)	-0.107 (0.004)	0.035 (0.006)	0.056
–	$M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$	10.102	2.142 (0.004)	-0.111 (0.004)	0.036 (0.005)	0.056
$\log V_{2.2}$	$M_i$	-20.558	2.120 (0.004)	-0.133 (0.006)	0.052 (0.007)	0.065
–	$M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)$	-21.799	2.142 (0.004)	-0.107 (0.004)	0.035 (0.005)	0.056
–	$M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$	10.102	2.120 (0.004)	-0.116 (0.004)	0.036 (0.005)	0.055
$\log V_c$	$M_i$	-20.558	2.205 (0.005)	-0.112 (0.006)	0.053 (0.007)	0.093
–	$M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)$	-21.799	2.142 (0.004)	-0.107 (0.004)	0.035 (0.005)	0.056
–	$M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$	10.102	2.205 (0.004)	-0.095 (0.004)	0.046 (0.006)	0.087

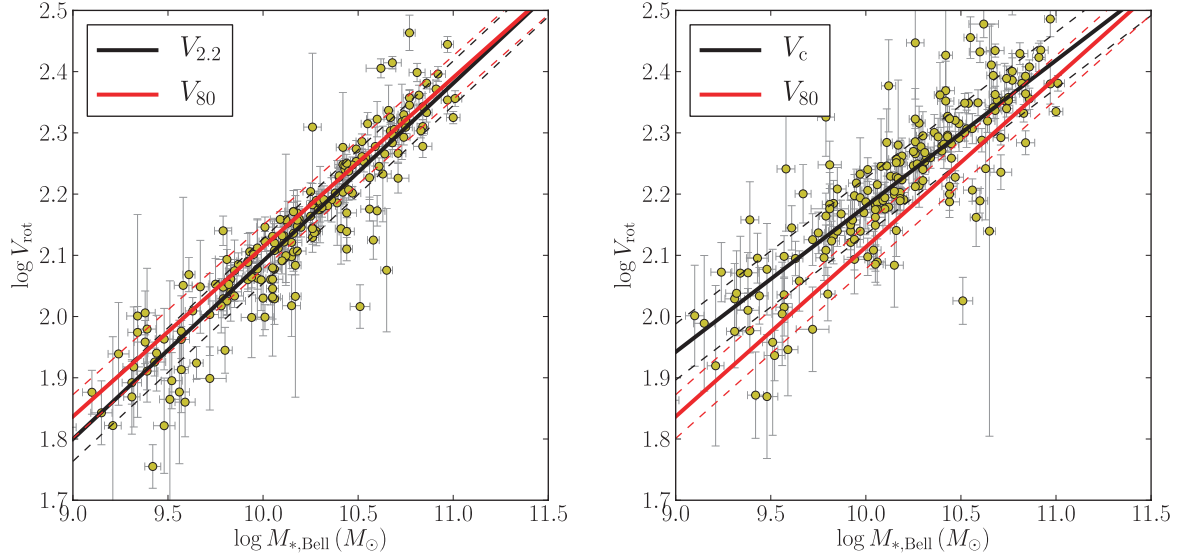
Notes. Columns are the same as in Table 8. Results for  $y = \log V_{80}$  are the same as in Table 11.

## 9.2 Alternative internal extinction corrections

We also present fits to the  $M_\lambda$  ITFRs for alternative internal extinction corrections. Our default internal extinction corrections are applied to the mean orientation of the child disc sample, and chosen so as to minimize the size, and therefore uncertainty, of the corrections (see Section 5.1). Table 13 lists ITFR fit parameters for  $M_\lambda^{i-0}$ , with extinction corrections applied to face-on orientation (usually adopted in the literature, in particular by P07), as well as  $M_\lambda^{\text{NC}}$ , with no extinction corrections at all.

For easy comparisons, we have chosen the pivot values  $M_{\lambda, p}$  to be that used for the default fit. As expected from the differences in the amount of extinction corrections, the normalization of the ITFR is lower by  $\sim 0.04$  dex for  $M_\lambda^{i-0}$ , and higher by  $\sim 0.003$  for  $M_\lambda^{\text{NC}}$ . The amount of the measured scatter is similar in all three cases; the amount of intrinsic scatter is slightly smaller for the extinction-corrected magnitudes than for the uncorrected ones (because of the additional uncertainty from the extinction corrections).

As a test of our internal extinction corrections, we will show in Section 10.1 that the velocity residuals in the  $M_i^{\text{NC}}$  ITFR are



**Figure 23.** Calibrated  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  ITFRs with rotation velocities  $V_{2.2}$  and  $V_c$  (left- and right-hand panels, respectively) for the child disc sample (filled circles with  $1\sigma$  error bars). In each panel, the best-fitting ITFR is shown by the black solid line and the amount of intrinsic scatter is shown by the dashed lines (displaced by  $\pm\tilde{\sigma}$  from the mean relation). For comparison, the  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  ITFR with  $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{80}$  and its intrinsic scatter are shown by the red solid and dashed lines.

**Table 13.** Calibrated  $M_\lambda$  ITFR fits for alternative internal extinction corrections for the child disc sample (189 galaxies).

y	x	$x_p$	a	b	$\tilde{\sigma}$	$\sigma_{\text{meas}}$
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
With default internal extinction corrections (same as Table 8)						
$\log V_{80}$	$M_u$	-18.731	2.188 (0.026)	-0.080 (0.009)	0.114 (0.011)	0.114
–	$M_g$	-19.903	2.142 (0.006)	-0.129 (0.008)	0.068 (0.008)	0.082
–	$M_r$	-20.375	2.142 (0.005)	-0.130 (0.007)	0.056 (0.007)	0.071
–	$M_i$	-20.558	2.142 (0.005)	-0.128 (0.006)	0.049 (0.007)	0.066
–	$M_z$	-20.649	2.142 (0.005)	-0.119 (0.005)	0.049 (0.007)	0.065
With internal extinction corrections to face-on orientation						
$\log V_{80}$	$M_u^{i=0}$	-18.731	2.142 (0.034)	-0.072 (0.015)	0.112 (0.016)	0.112
–	$M_g^{i=0}$	-19.903	2.079 (0.007)	-0.117 (0.007)	0.064 (0.009)	0.082
–	$M_r^{i=0}$	-20.375	2.087 (0.006)	-0.120 (0.006)	0.052 (0.008)	0.071
–	$M_i^{i=0}$	-20.558	2.098 (0.005)	-0.119 (0.005)	0.046 (0.008)	0.066
–	$M_z^{i=0}$	-20.649	2.111 (0.005)	-0.112 (0.004)	0.047 (0.007)	0.065
Without internal extinction corrections						
$\log V_{80}$	$M_u^{\text{NC}}$	-18.731	2.190 (0.022)	-0.081 (0.011)	0.114 (0.017)	0.114
–	$M_g^{\text{NC}}$	-19.903	2.147 (0.006)	-0.123 (0.008)	0.072 (0.009)	0.083
–	$M_r^{\text{NC}}$	-20.375	2.147 (0.005)	-0.126 (0.006)	0.060 (0.009)	0.073
–	$M_i^{\text{NC}}$	-20.558	2.145 (0.005)	-0.127 (0.005)	0.052 (0.008)	0.066
–	$M_z^{\text{NC}}$	-20.649	2.145 (0.005)	-0.119 (0.005)	0.049 (0.008)	0.065

Notes. Columns are the same as in Table 8. Here, the pivot values  $x_p$  (Column 3) were chosen to match the default fit values for easier comparisons.

correlated with disc axial ratios, while those for the  $M_i$  ITFR are not.

### 9.3 Alternative fit directions

We present calibrated forward fits to the  $M_i$ ,  $M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r)$  and  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  TFRs in Table 14. In these fits, the photometric quantity  $\mathcal{O}$  serves as the dependent variable, and  $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{80}$  serves as the independent variable (see equations 28–30). We list the best-fitting forward TFR parameters  $a_{\text{fwd}}$ ,  $b_{\text{fwd}}$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}_{\text{fwd}}$ , as well as the converted fit parameters  $a_{\text{conv}}$ ,  $b_{\text{conv}}$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}_{\text{conv}}$  (defined after equation 30 in Section 7.1).

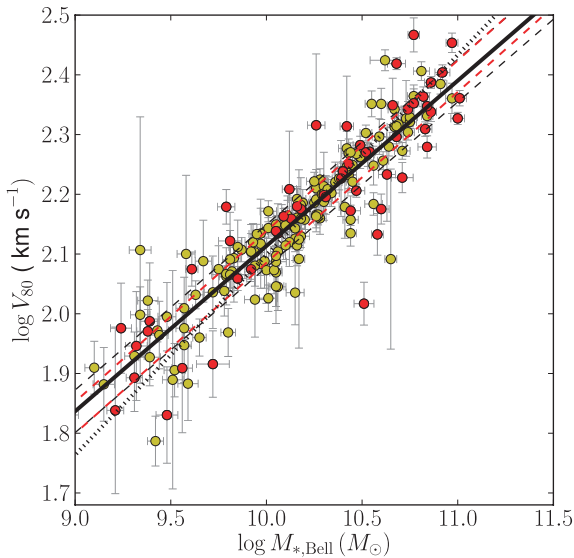
Compared with the inverse fits (shown in the lower half of Table 14, for easy comparisons), the forward fits have slightly larger intrinsic scatter (by  $\sim 1\sigma$ ) and significantly steeper slopes ( $b_{\text{conv}} < b$ ). Fig. 24 shows the inverse and forward fits to the  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  TFR (black solid and dotted lines, respectively).

The steeper slopes from the forward fits can be (at least, partly) attributed to a Malmquist-type bias due to our applied absolute magnitude cuts. Based on a Monte Carlo experiment performed by P07 (see their appendix B), the effect of the cuts is to steepen the slope and reduce the intrinsic scatter. We do not attempt to correct for this bias and present the forward fit results at face value. In the

**Table 14.** Calibrated forward fits to the TFRs for the child disc sample (189 galaxies) with independent variable  $x = \log V_{80}$  and dependent variable  $y = \mathcal{O} = \{M_i, M_{\text{syn}}(i, g-r), \log M_{\star, \text{Bell}}\}$ .

$\mathcal{O}$ (1)	$x_p$ (2)	$a_{\text{fwd}}$ (3)	$a_{\text{conv}}$ (4)	$b_{\text{fwd}}$ (5)	$b_{\text{conv}}$ (6)	$\tilde{\sigma}_{\text{fwd}}$ (7)	$\tilde{\sigma}_{\text{conv}}$ (8)
Forward fits to the TFR							
$M_i$	2.142	−20.602 (0.033)	2.131 (0.006)	−5.807 (0.307)	−0.172 (0.009)	0.344 (0.041)	0.059 (0.007)
$M_{\text{syn}}$	2.160	−21.983 (0.032)	2.115 (0.004)	−7.716 (0.310)	−0.130 (0.005)	0.312 (0.046)	0.041 (0.006)
$M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$	2.142	10.054 (0.033)	2.133 (0.004)	−7.465 (0.281)	−0.134 (0.005)	0.307 (0.043)	0.041 (0.006)
Inverse fits to the TFR with $V_{\text{rot}} = V_{80}$ (same as in Table 11)							
$M_i$	−20.558	—	2.142 (0.005)	—	−0.128 (0.006)	—	0.049 (0.007)
$M_{\text{syn}}$	−21.965	—	2.160 (0.004)	—	−0.107 (0.004)	—	0.035 (0.006)
$M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$	10.102	—	2.142 (0.004)	—	−0.111 (0.004)	—	0.036 (0.005)

Notes. Column 1:  $\mathcal{O}$  is the photometric quantity – the dependent (independent) variable in the forward (inverse) fits. Column 2:  $x_p$  is the pivot value for the independent variable –  $(\log V_{80})_p$  for the forward fits and  $\mathcal{O}_p$  for the inverse fits. Columns 3, 5 and 7: best-fitting forward TFR parameters –  $a_{\text{fwd}}$ ,  $b_{\text{fwd}}$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}_{\text{fwd}}$  – and their  $1\sigma$  uncertainties, as defined in equations (28)–(30). Columns 4, 6 and 8: converted forward TFR parameters to be compared with the inverse fit parameters.

**Figure 24.** Comparison of alternative fits to the  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  TFR for the child disc sample (189 galaxies). Galaxies with  $D/T > 0.9$  (137 galaxies) and  $D/T \leq 0.9$  are shown by yellow and red circles, respectively (shown with  $1\sigma$  error bars). Solid and dashed black lines show the best-fitting ITFR and  $\pm 1\sigma$  bounds; the dotted black line shows the best-fitting forward TFR. Red dashed lines show  $\pm 1\sigma$  bounds for the best-fitting ITFR for galaxies with  $D/T > 0.9$ .

rest of the paper, we focus on the inverse fits, which are not affected by this bias.

We have also performed orthogonal fits to the TFRs, in which offsets are measured in the direction orthogonal to the best-fitting relation itself (rather than in the horizontal or vertical directions). We find that the best-fitting parameters from the orthogonal fits are almost identical to those for the inverse fits. This is not surprising because the total measurement uncertainty is dominated by the rotation velocity uncertainty, i.e.  $\sigma_i(\log V_{\text{rot}})$  is much larger than  $b \times \sigma_i(\mathcal{O})$  (cf. equation 34 and discussion afterwards).

#### 9.4 Alternative sample: $D/T > 0.9$

For various reasons, disc-dominated galaxies are expected to form a tighter TFR than the general population. The lack of a significant

bulge component makes the measurement of various photometric quantities cleaner (i.e. less noisy). In addition, late-type spirals have been found to have smaller intrinsic disc ellipticities than earlier types (Ryden 2006), leading to a smaller contribution to the scatter due to random viewing angles. Disc-dominated galaxies tend to be kinematically homogeneous systems as well. Fig. 24 shows that galaxies in the child disc sample with  $D/T > 0.9$  (135 galaxies; yellow circles) indeed form a tighter TFR than the full sample.

We have performed weighted ITFR fits to the disc-dominated subsample of galaxies with  $D/T > 0.9$ . The red dashed lines in Fig. 24 mark  $\pm 1\sigma$  from the best-fitting relation. We find  $\tilde{\sigma} = 0.027 \pm 0.009$  and  $\sigma_{\text{meas}} = 0.049$ , compared to  $\tilde{\sigma} = 0.036 \pm 0.005$  and  $\sigma_{\text{meas}} = 0.056$  for the full child disc sample (Table 11). We conclude that the inclusion of only the disc-dominated galaxies yield a tighter ITFR at the  $\sim 1\sigma$  level.

#### 9.5 Comparison with P07 fits

To make a fair comparison with the results presented in P07, we perform ITFR fits to the P07 galaxy sample using the photometric quantity and rotation velocity amplitude definition used by P07. The photometric quantity used is absolute magnitude corrected for internal extinction to face-on orientation,  $M_i^{-0}$ , and the rotation velocity amplitude definition used is  $V_{80}$ .

First, we perform unweighted fits to P07 measurements (both for the  $x$  and  $y$  variables in the ITFR) and check that we reproduce the results published in table 4 of P07. Then, we perform weighted fits to our own measurements. Table 15 lists the different sets of best-fitting ITFR parameters. The relations derived using P07 measurements and ours are consistent with one another within their reported intrinsic scatter, but the two deviate slightly at the bright end (our measurements yield a best-fitting ITFR with a shallower slope and lower normalization). The slight differences can be traced to differences in the determination of  $V_{80}$  (cf. Section 6.5.3) and internal extinction corrections to  $M_i$  in the two methods.

#### 10 TFR RESIDUAL CORRELATIONS

In this section, we study correlations between velocity residuals from the calibrated ITFRs (derived in Section 8 and summarized in Table 11) and various galaxy properties, namely disc axial ratios



**Table 15.** Comparison of ITFR fits for the P07 and child disc samples (with 157 and 189 galaxies, respectively).

$y$ (1)	$x$ (2)	$x_p$ (3)	$a$ (4)	$b$ (5)	$\bar{\sigma}$ (6)	$\sigma_{\text{meas}}$ (7)
ITFR parameters from table 4 of P07						
$\log V_{80}$	$M_i^{i-0}$	-21.327	2.212(0.005)	-0.130(0.005)	0.061(0.005)	–
Unweighted ITFR fits for the P07 galaxy sample, using P07 measurements						
$\log V_{80}$	$M_i^{i-0}$	-21.327	2.207(0.005)	-0.127(0.005)	0.058(0.005)	0.067
Calibrated ITFR fits for the P07 galaxy sample, using our measurements						
$\log V_{80}$	$M_i^{i-0}$	-21.327	2.195(0.007)	-0.122(0.006)	0.055(0.009)	0.102

Notes. Columns are the same as in Table 8. Here, the pivot values  $x_p$  (Column 3) were chosen to match the reported values in P07 for easier comparisons.

in Section 10.1, galaxy colours in Section 10.2 and disc sizes in Section 10.3.

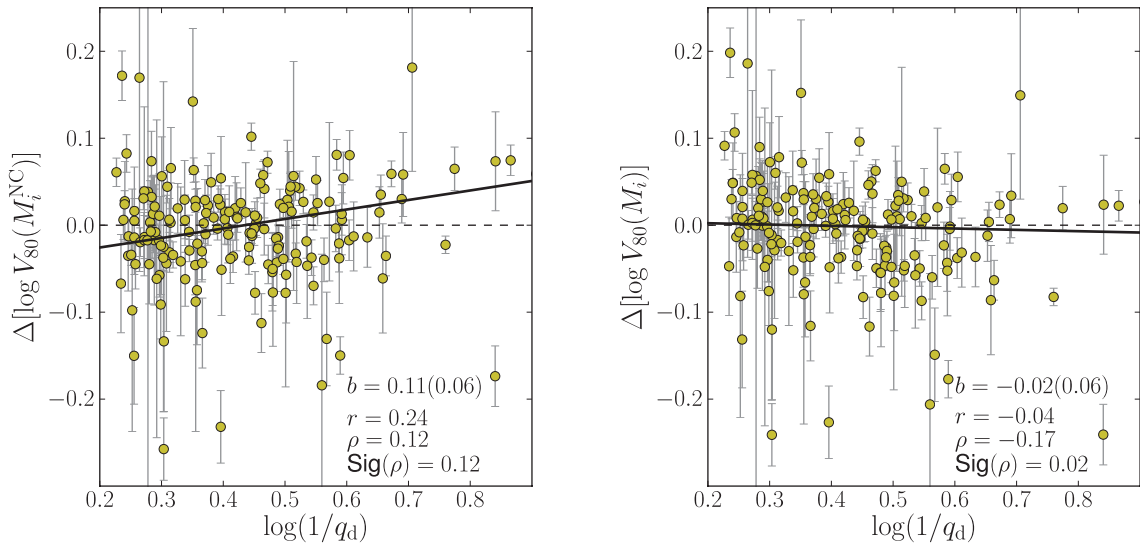
We calculate two kinds of correlation coefficients: the Pearson linear correlation coefficient  $r$  and the Spearman rank correlation coefficient  $\rho$ . The former assesses how well the relationship between two variables can be described as linear ( $r = \pm 1$  means there is a perfect positive/negative linear correlation), while the latter assesses how well the relationship can be described as monotonic, regardless of the form of the relationship. We also quote the two-tailed significance of the deviation of  $\rho$  from zero,  $\text{Sig}(\rho)$ . A small value (i.e. smaller than 0.01) indicates a significant correlation. We also perform unweighted linear fits using a similar procedure as for the TFR fits (described in Section 7.2) and quote best-fitting slopes  $b$ .

### 10.1 Correlations with disc axial ratio

To test our internal extinction corrections (defined in Section 5.1), we study the correlation between disc axial ratios  $q_d$  and velocity residuals from the  $M_i^{\text{NC}}$  and  $M_i$  ITFRs, i.e. before and after internal extinction corrections (cf. Table 13). We expect to see a positive cor-

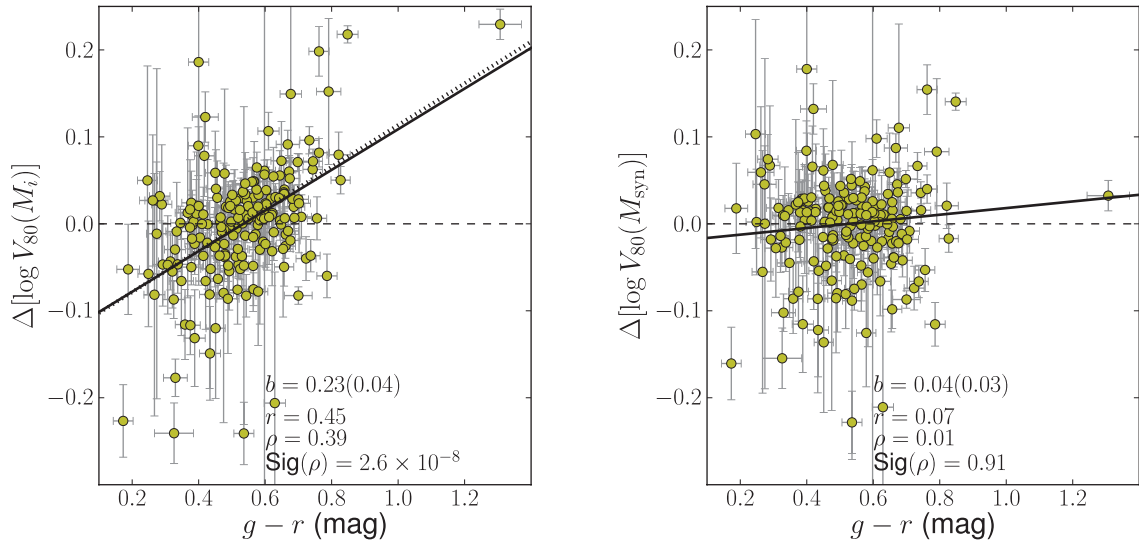
relation for the  $M_i^{\text{NC}}$  ITFR residuals, because more highly inclined galaxies tend to be more heavily affected by dust and artificially displaced from the TFR towards fainter luminosities. Hence, they tend to have larger (i.e. more positive) velocity residuals. If our internal extinction corrections are valid on average, we expect the correlation to decrease or disappear altogether in the  $M_i$  ITFR residuals.

Fig. 25 shows  $\log(1/q_d)$  versus velocity residuals  $\Delta[\log V_{80}(M_i^{\text{NC}})]$  and  $\Delta[\log V_{80}(M_i)]$  (left- and right-hand panels, respectively). The best-fitting linear relations for 179 (out of 189) galaxies in the child disc sample with  $q_d < 0.6$  are shown by solid lines in both panels. (Recall that our target selection cut is based on  $q_{\text{iso}}$ , not  $q_d$ ; a number of child disc sample galaxies have  $q_d$  slightly above 0.6.) For  $M_i^{\text{NC}}$ , the best-fitting slope is non-zero and positive,  $b = 0.11 \pm 0.06$ , while for  $M_i$ , the best-fitting slope is consistent with zero,  $b = 0.02 \pm 0.06$ . The correlation coefficients indicate a weak positive correlation in the former case and a weak negative correlation in the latter, albeit neither correlation is very significant. We conclude that the applied internal extinction corrections adequately remove the correlation between TFR residuals and disc axial ratios, as desired.



**Figure 25.** Correlation between disc axial ratios  $q_d$  and  $\log V_{80}$  residuals from the  $M_i^{\text{NC}}$  and  $M_i$  ITFRs (i.e. absolute magnitudes before and after internal extinction correction) (left- and right-hand panels, respectively). Filled circles are shown with  $1\sigma$  error bars, for 179 (out of 189) galaxies in the child disc sample with  $q_d < 0.6$ . Solid lines show the best-fitting linear relations; horizontal dashed lines show the zero level. Labels show the best-fitting slope  $b$  and its  $1\sigma$  uncertainty, the Pearson linear correlation coefficient,  $r$ , the Spearman rank correlation,  $\rho$ , and the two-tailed significance of its deviation from zero.





**Figure 26.** Correlation between  $g - r$  colours and  $\log V_{80}$  residuals from the  $M_i$  and  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFRs (left- and right-hand panels, respectively). Filled circles are shown with  $1\sigma$  error bars for the 189 galaxies in the child disc sample. Solid lines show the best-fitting linear relations; horizontal dashed lines show the zero level. The dotted line in the left-hand panel has a slope of 0.24, the predicted slope from the Bell et al. (2003) scaling relation  $M_*/L \propto (g - r)^{0.68}$ . Labels show the best-fitting slope  $b$  and its  $1\sigma$  uncertainty, the Pearson linear correlation coefficient  $r$ , the Spearman rank correlation  $\rho$  and the two-tailed significance of its deviation from zero.

## 10.2 Correlations with galaxy colour

The observed colours of a galaxy encapsulate properties of its stellar population, in particular, its average stellar mass-to-light ratio  $M_*/L$ . In Section 8, we showed that by adding colour information to the luminosity (i.e. using  $M_*$  or  $M_{\text{syn}}$ , instead of  $M_i$ ), we can reduce the intrinsic scatter in the ITFR by  $\sim 30$  per cent (or  $2\sigma$ ). Now, we explicitly show that in doing so, we have successfully extracted most of the available information from galaxy colour to yield the tightest possible TFR. In other words, most of the correlation between galaxy colours and velocity residuals from the  $M_i$  ITFR is removed when  $M_{\text{syn}}$  is used instead.

Fig. 26 shows the correlation between  $g - r$  colour and  $\Delta(\log V_{80})$  for 189 galaxies in the child disc sample. Left- and right-hand panels show residuals from the best-fitting  $M_i$  and  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFRs, respectively. Best-fitting linear relations are shown as solid lines in both panels. Labels show the best-fitting slope  $b$  and its  $1\sigma$  uncertainty, the Pearson linear correlation coefficient  $r$ , the Spearman rank correlation  $\rho$  and the two-tailed significance of its deviation from zero.

Clearly, we find a significant positive correlation between galaxy colours and  $M_i$  ITFR residuals. The best-fitting slope is  $0.23 \pm 0.04$ , and the Spearman rank correlation coefficient is  $\rho = 0.39$ , with very high significance. On the other hand, we find no significant correlation for the  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFR residuals. The best-fitting slope  $0.04 \pm 0.03$  is consistent with zero and  $\rho = 0.01$ . These results show that, indeed, the addition of colour information in  $M_{\text{syn}}$  removes essentially all of the residual correlation.

Notably, the reddest galaxy in the sample SDSSJ203523–06 is an extreme outlier from the  $M_i$  TFR (with  $g - r = 1.31 \pm 0.42$  and  $\Delta[\log V_{80}(M_i)] = 0.22$ ), but lies within  $2\sigma$  of the  $M_*$  and  $M_{\text{syn}}$  ITFRs (with  $\log V_{80}$  residuals 0.03 and 0.05, respectively). This edge-on galaxy is an extreme case, with a prominent dust lane, disc axial ratio  $q_d = 0.064$  (smallest in the sample) and  $M_*/L_i = 9.7$  (largest in the sample; for comparison, the second largest value is 3.66, and the mean is 1.86), so it is gratifying to find that the colour corrections seem to have worked in this case.

Now, we show that the observed correlation between  $g - r$  colours and  $M_i$  ITFR velocity residuals can be attributed to the variation in  $M_*/L$  with colour. Redder galaxies have larger  $M_*/L$ , so they tend to be fainter than average for a given rotation velocity. Assuming the Bell et al. (2003) relation,  $M_*/L_i \propto (g - r)^{0.86}$ , we can predict the slope of the residual correlation to be

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Delta[\log V_{80}(M_i)]}{\Delta(g - r)} &\simeq \frac{\Delta[\log V_{80}(M_*)]}{\Delta(\log M_*)} \times \frac{\Delta[\log(M_*/L_i)]}{\Delta(g - r)} \\ &= (-2.5)(-0.111 \pm 0.004)(0.86) \\ &= 0.24 \pm 0.09, \end{aligned}$$

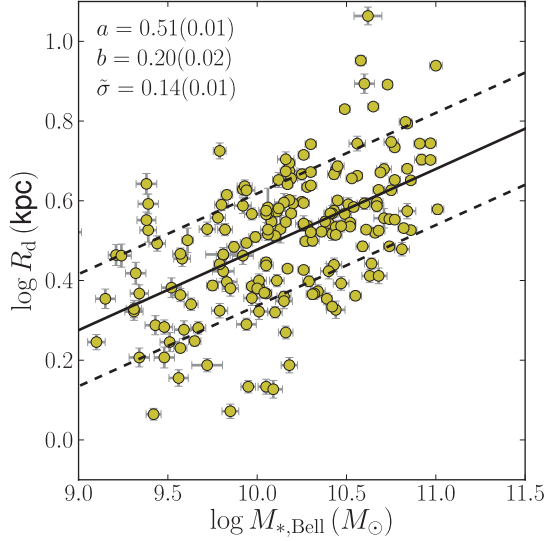
where we have used the best-fitting slope of the  $M_*$  ITFR from Table 10. This predicted slope is very close to the best-fitting value (dotted versus solid lines in the left-hand panel of Fig. 26).<sup>23</sup>

Putting these results together, we form a fully consistent picture. The addition of colour information to  $M_i$  via  $M_*$  and  $M_{\text{syn}}$  corrects for the variation in  $M_*/L_i$  with colour. Doing so successfully removes most of the residual correlation with galaxy colour and yields to significantly tighter ITFRs.

## 10.3 Correlations with disc size

Recent observational studies of the TFR have consistently found a lack of correlation between TFR residuals and disc galaxy scale-lengths (Courteau et al. 2007; P07). Courteau & Rix (1999) argued that this lack of correlation indicates that the disc mass does not contribute most of the disc rotation velocity at the optical radius. However, Dutton et al. (2007) noted that there can be other interpretations as well. Still, both Dutton et al. (2007) and Gnedin et al. (2007) noted that the observed lack of residual correlations plays a key role in their conclusions about the baryon fractions of disc galaxies. For a

<sup>23</sup> If one instead assumes a pure gravitational disc model, in which  $V_{\text{rot}}^2 \propto M_*$  at fixed scalelength (as was done in P07), one would predict a different slope, equal to  $0.86/2 = 0.43$ , which is inconsistent with the observations.



**Figure 27.** Relation between stellar masses  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  and disc scalelengths  $R_d$  for 189 galaxies in the child disc sample (filled circles with  $1\sigma$  error bars). The best-fitting relation  $\log R_d = a + b(\log M_* - 10.17)$  is shown by the solid line, and the dashed lines are displaced from the mean relation by  $\pm\sigma$ , the best-fitting Gaussian intrinsic scatter equal to 0.14 dex. Best-fitting parameters are listed in the upper left corner, together with their  $1\sigma$  uncertainties.

pure self-gravitating disc model,  $V_{\text{rot}}^2 \propto R_d^{-1}$  at fixed  $M_*$ , so a strong negative correlation is expected with  $\partial \log V_{\text{rot}} / \partial \log R_d = -0.5$ . On the other hand, a strong positive correlation is expected for a pure Navarro, Frenk & White (1996, hereinafter NFW) DM halo model, with an expected slope of  $+0.5$  in the inner regions.<sup>24</sup>

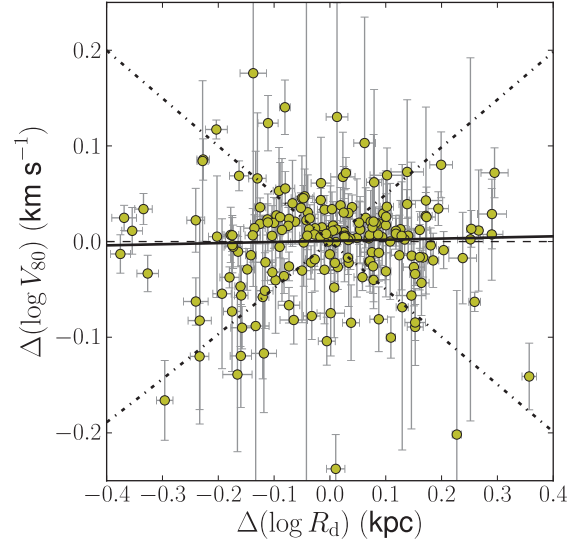
We study correlations between velocity residuals from the  $M_*$  ITFR and disc size offsets from the mean size–mass relation,  $\Delta(\log R_d) = \log(R_d/\bar{R}_d(M_*))$ . Fig. 27 shows the  $\log M_*$ – $\log R_d$  relation for 189 galaxies in the child disc sample (filled circles) and the best-fitting mean relation  $\bar{R}_d(M_*)$  (solid line). Using a procedure similar to that used to fit the TFRs (cf. Section 7.2), we find

$$\log \left( \frac{\bar{R}_d}{\text{kpc}} \right) = (0.51 \pm 0.010) + (0.20 \pm 0.02) \times \left[ \log \left( \frac{M_*}{M_\odot} \right) - 10.17 \right], \quad (35)$$

with a best-fitting Gaussian intrinsic scatter in  $\log R_d$  of  $\sigma = 0.14 \pm 0.01$  dex.

Fig. 28 shows the correlation between velocity residuals  $\Delta[\log V_{80}(M_*)]$  and disc size offsets  $\Delta(\log R_d)$  for the 189 galaxies in the child disc sample. Confirming the results of prior studies, we find no evidence for a correlation:  $r = 0.05$  and  $\rho = 0.04$ . The best-fitting linear relation has a slope consistent with zero,  $b = 0.012 \pm 0.034$  (solid line).

Now, we go one step further and repeat the analysis for three bins in stellar mass (with 64, 64 and 61 galaxies in the low, intermediate and high stellar mass bins, respectively). Fig. 29 shows the results for each stellar mass bin (as labeled; the legend here is similar to that



**Figure 28.** Correlation between velocity residuals from the  $M_*$  ITFR,  $\Delta(\log V_{80})$ , and disc size offsets  $\Delta(\log R_d)$ , defined relative to the mean relation  $\log \bar{R}_d(M_*)$  (given by equation 35). The best-fitting linear relation has a slope consistent with zero (solid line). Predicted trends for a pure self-gravitating disc model (slope =  $-0.5$ ) and a pure NFW DM halo model (slope =  $+0.5$ ) are also shown (dot-dashed lines).

in Fig. 28). Although the best-fitting slopes are not close to either of the predictions from the pure disc and pure DM models ( $-0.5$  and  $+0.5$ , respectively; dot-dashed lines), we find a decreasing trend in the best-fitting slope (changing sign from slightly positive to slightly negative) with increasing stellar mass:  $b = 0.087 \pm 0.055$ ,  $0.00 \pm 0.03$  and  $-0.04 \pm 0.08$  for the low, intermediate and high stellar mass bins, respectively. The correlations are weak, but reflect the same trend with increasing stellar mass:  $\rho = 0.25$ ,  $-0.08$  and  $-0.15$ , with corresponding  $\text{Sig}(\rho) = 0.05$ ,  $0.5$  and  $0.2$ , for the three bins, respectively.

The observed trend indicates that the stellar mass (or baryon) fraction within the optical region of disc galaxies increases systematically with stellar mass over the range of stellar masses we consider. In Section 11, we explicitly calculate stellar mass fractions and confirm the trend with stellar mass suggested by these residual correlations. In Section 12.4, we discuss the interpretation of these results.

## 11 DYNAMICAL-TO-STELLAR MASS RATIOS

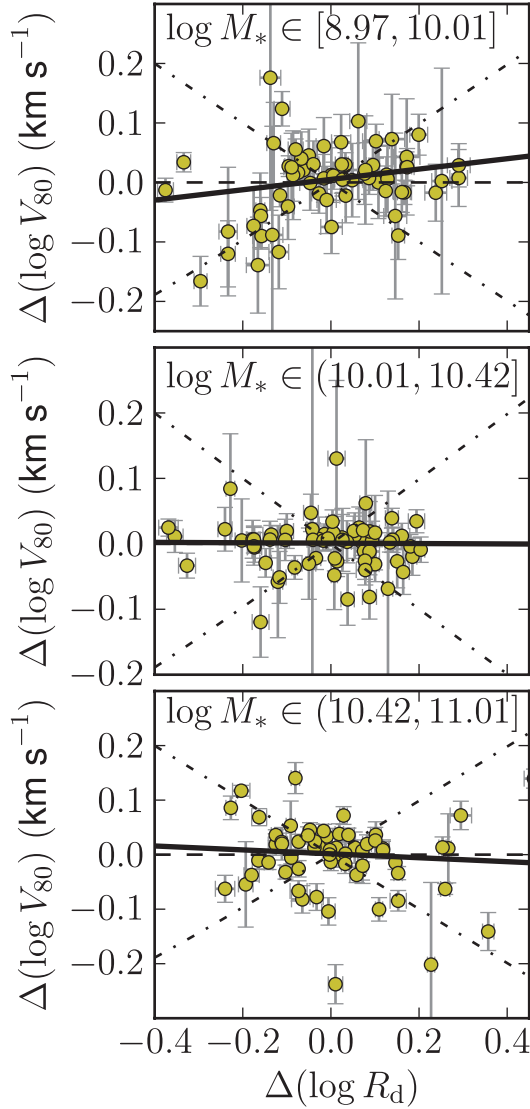
We calculate dynamical-to-stellar mass ratios within the optical radius  $R_{80}$  for the 189 galaxies in the child disc sample, denoted by  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)_{\text{opt}} \equiv (M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)(R_{80}) = M_{\text{dyn}}(R_{80})/M_*(R_{80}) \equiv M_{\text{dyn,opt}}/M_{*,\text{opt}}$ . We adopt an empirical definition that depends straightforwardly on directly observed quantities

$$\left( \frac{M_{\text{dyn}}}{M_*} \right)_{\text{opt}} = \frac{V_{80}^2 R_{80}/G}{0.8 M_{*,\text{Bell}}} - [\mathcal{K}(D/T)_{80} - 1], \quad (36)$$

where  $G = 4.3012 \times 10^{-6} \text{ kpc (km s}^{-1})^2 M_\odot^{-1}$  is the gravitational constant,  $\mathcal{K} = 1.34$  is a geometrical factor that corrects for the flattened potential of the disc (assuming a galaxy model with an exponential disc, bulge and NFW DM halo; see the Appendix for the derivation), and  $(D/T)_{80}$  is the disc-to-total mass ratio within  $R_{80}$ ,

$$(D/T)_{80} = \frac{1 - e^{-R_{80}/R_d} (1 + R_{80}/R_d)}{0.8} \times (D/T). \quad (37)$$

<sup>24</sup> Note that the disc scalelength dictates the radius at which the rotation velocity is evaluated, and therefore, the amount of DM ‘seen’ by the gas. Thus, in the case where DM dominates the inner regions of the galaxy, the expected value of  $\partial \log V_{\text{rot}} / \partial \log R_d$  is given by the inner slope of the circular velocity profile of an NFW DM halo, which is around  $1/2$ .



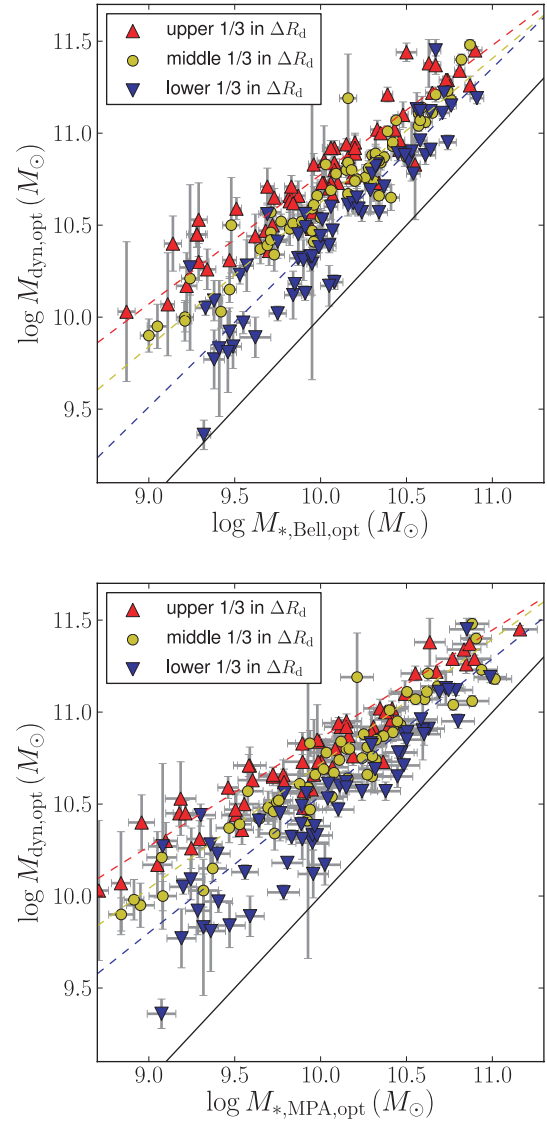
**Figure 29.** Correlations between velocity residuals from the  $M_*$  ITFR,  $\Delta(\log V_{80})$  and disc size offsets  $\Delta(\log R_d)$  for the child disc sample divided into three stellar mass bins, as labelled (with increasing  $M_*$  from top to bottom). Solid lines show the best-fitting linear relations, dashed horizontal lines show the zero level and dot-dashed lines show the predicted trends for a pure self-gravitating disc model (slope =  $-0.5$ ) and a pure NFW DM halo model (slope =  $+0.5$ ).

For simplicity, we have assumed that the average stellar mass-to-light ratio within  $R_{80}$  is equal to its global value, so that  $M_{*,\text{opt}}/M_* \approx 0.8$  by the definition of  $R_{80}$  (actually, the value of  $M_*/L$  varies with radius, as indicated by colour gradients along the disc). Note that  $V_{80}^2 R_{80}/G$  is the dynamical mass within  $R_{80}$  for a spherical mass distribution with a circular velocity equal to  $V_{80}$ , and that we have assumed a fixed Kroupa IMF in the definition of  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$ .

We also calculate dynamical-to-baryonic mass ratios within  $R_{80}$ :

$$\left(\frac{M_{\text{dyn}}}{M_{\text{bar}}}\right)_{\text{opt}} = \left(\frac{M_{\text{dyn}}}{M_*}\right)_{\text{opt}} \left(\frac{M_*}{M_{\text{bar}}}\right), \quad (38)$$

where  $M_{\text{bar}}$  are baryonic mass estimates based on  $u-r$  colour-based gas-to-stellar mass ratios from Kannappan (2004) (cf. Section 5.5). For simplicity, we have assumed that the average gas-to-stellar mass ratio within  $R_{80}$  is equal to its global value. Actually, the radial extent of H I is usually larger than the optical radius (Broeils &



**Figure 30.** Relation between dynamical mass  $M_{\text{dyn,opt}}$  and stellar mass  $M_{*,\text{opt}}$  within the optical radius  $R_{80}$  for 189 galaxies in the child disc sample. Top and bottom panels show different stellar mass estimates  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  and  $M_{*,\text{MPA}}$ , respectively. Different symbols show galaxies in three bins in disc size offsets  $\Delta R_d$  (red triangles, yellow circles blue inverted triangles for the upper, middle and lower bins, respectively), with corresponding best-fitting relations shown by colored dashed lines (listed in Table 16). Solid lines show  $M_{\text{dyn,opt}} = M_{*,\text{opt}}$ .

Rhee 1997), so the global gas-to-stellar mass ratio is usually larger than that within the optical radius.

Fig. 30 shows the relation between  $M_{*,\text{opt}}$  and  $M_{\text{dyn,opt}}$  for the 189 galaxies in the child disc sample, using stellar mass estimates  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  and  $M_{*,\text{MPA}}$  (top and bottom panels, respectively). The scatter in this relation is clearly driven by disc size (red triangles, yellow circles blue inverted triangles show the upper, middle and lower bins in disc size offset  $\Delta R_d$ , respectively). Best-fitting linear relations for each bin are shown by coloured dashed lines, and best-fitting parameters are listed in Table 16. The slopes of the relations are less than unity for both stellar mass estimates:  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)_{\text{opt}}$  decreases with stellar mass. In subsequent figures, we will show only results for  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$ .

Fig. 31 shows the relation between  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)_{\text{opt}}$  (top panel) and  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  (bottom panel) and stellar masses  $M_{*,\text{opt}}$ . Here,

**Table 16.** Fits to the  $M_{\text{dyn}}-M_{\star,\text{opt}}$  relation and  $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star}$  relations with various physical parameters.

$y$ (1)	$x$ (2)	Bin (3)	$x_p$ (4)	$a$ (5)	$b$ (6)	$\tilde{\sigma}$ (7)	$\sigma_{\text{meas}}$ (8)
$\log M_{\text{dyn}}$	$\log M_{\star,\text{Bell,opt}}$	All galaxies	10.07	10.667 (0.014)	0.779 (0.038)	0.172 (0.015)	0.202
–	–	Lower 1/3 in $\Delta R_d$	10.07	10.495 (0.023)	0.921 (0.061)	0.137 (0.018)	0.174
–	–	Middle 1/3 in $\Delta R_d$	10.07	10.676 (0.010)	0.783 (0.030)	0.062 (0.020)	0.114
–	–	Upper 1/3 in $\Delta R_d$	10.07	10.822 (0.020)	0.703 (0.044)	0.125 (0.028)	0.151
$\log M_{\text{dyn}}$	$\log M_{\star,\text{MPA,opt}}$	All galaxies	9.93	10.661 (0.015)	0.650 (0.029)	0.169 (0.016)	0.202
–	–	Lower 1/3 in $\Delta R_d$	9.93	10.491 (0.023)	0.745 (0.054)	0.129 (0.028)	0.180
–	–	Middle 1/3 in $\Delta R_d$	9.93	10.669 (0.013)	0.677 (0.030)	0.000 (0.029)	0.116
–	–	Upper 1/3 in $\Delta R_d$	9.93	10.815 (0.019)	0.588 (0.035)	0.123 (0.050)	0.141
$\log M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star}$	$\log M_{\star,\text{Bell,opt}}$	All galaxies	10.07	0.600 (0.014)	–0.225 (0.037)	0.168 (0.015)	0.202
–	–	Lower 1/3 in $\Delta R_d$	10.07	0.428 (0.023)	–0.080 (0.061)	0.136 (0.019)	0.174
–	–	Middle 1/3 in $\Delta R_d$	10.07	0.608 (0.011)	–0.215 (0.030)	0.057 (0.028)	0.114
–	–	Upper 1/3 in $\Delta R_d$	10.07	0.753 (0.018)	–0.309 (0.040)	0.113 (0.028)	0.150
$\log M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star}$	$\Sigma_{\star,\text{opt}}$	All galaxies	7.33	0.603 (0.009)	–0.419 (0.027)	0.097 (0.012)	0.145
$\log M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}}$	$\log M_{\star,\text{Bell,opt}}$	All galaxies	10.07	0.358 (0.017)	–0.004 (0.045)	0.221 (0.023)	0.232
–	–	Lower 1/3 in $\Delta R_d$	10.07	0.199 (0.026)	0.170 (0.084)	0.203 (0.035)	0.215
–	–	Middle 1/3 in $\Delta R_d$	10.07	0.362 (0.017)	–0.011 (0.041)	0.127 (0.018)	0.154
–	–	Upper 1/3 in $\Delta R_d$	10.07	0.499 (0.026)	–0.098 (0.060)	0.190 (0.029)	0.206
$\log M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}}$	$\log \Sigma_{\text{bar,opt}}$	All galaxies	7.33	0.470 (0.014)	–0.432 (0.045)	0.140 (0.013)	0.177

Notes. Column 1:  $y$  is the dependent variable in the fit. Column 2:  $x$  is the independent variable in the fit. Column 3: subsample or bin used for the fit. Column 4:  $x_p$  is the pivot value for  $x$ . Columns 5–7: best-fitting parameters and their  $1\sigma$  uncertainties:  $a$  is the zero-point,  $b$  is the slope and  $\tilde{\sigma}$  is the intrinsic Gaussian scatter. Column 8:  $\sigma_{\text{meas}}$  is the measured scatter in the mean relation, defined to be the rms of the residuals  $(\Delta y)_i = y_i - [a + b \times (x - x_p)]$ . Masses are in units of  $M_{\odot}$ , and  $\Sigma_{\star,\text{opt}}$  and  $\Sigma_{\text{bar,opt}}$  are in units of  $M_{\odot} \text{ kpc}^{-2}$ .

different symbols show bins in disc size offsets  $\Delta R_d$ . Fig. 32 shows the corresponding relations with  $R_{80}$ . Different symbols show bins in stellar mass  $M_{\star,\text{Bell}}$ , as in Fig. 30. In both figures, red triangles, yellow circles and blue inverted triangles show the upper, middle and lower bins, respectively. For Fig. 31, best-fitting relations are shown by dashed lines of corresponding colors, and best-fitting parameters are listed in Table 16.

We begin by discussing the trends in  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  (top panels of Figs 31 and 32). Then, we discuss the trends in  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  (bottom panels of the same figures). Our interpretation of these trends will be discussed in Section 12.4.

We confirm the results of previous studies which showed that at a fixed stellar mass, larger (smaller) discs tend to have higher (lower)  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  (Zavala et al. 2003; Pizagno et al. 2005). We also report a new finding: while most discs show a clear trend in  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  with stellar mass, the smallest discs fall off that main relation and tend to have low  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  regardless of their stellar mass (blue inverted triangles and dotted line in the top panel of Fig. 31 and leftmost points in the top panel of Fig. 32).<sup>25</sup>

For stellar mass estimates  $M_{\star,\text{Bell}}$ , with a fixed Kroupa IMF, intermediate and large discs have  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  decreasing from  $\approx 10$  to 3 as  $M_{\star,\text{Bell}}$  increases from  $10^9$  to  $10^{11} M_{\odot}$ , while the smallest discs have  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}} \approx 2.7$ , regardless of stellar mass.<sup>26</sup> At the high

$M_{\star}$  end, the ratios converge to the same low value, regardless of disc size. In other words, if we ignore the contribution of the gas mass, maximal discs (i.e. with  $M_{\text{dyn,opt}} = M_{\star,\text{opt}}$ ) require a non-uniform increase in the IMF normalization varying from  $\sim 0.4$  dex (for the highest  $M_{\star}$  and lowest  $R_d$  galaxies) to  $\sim 1$  dex (for the lowest  $M_{\star}$  galaxies with intermediate-to-high  $R_d$ ).

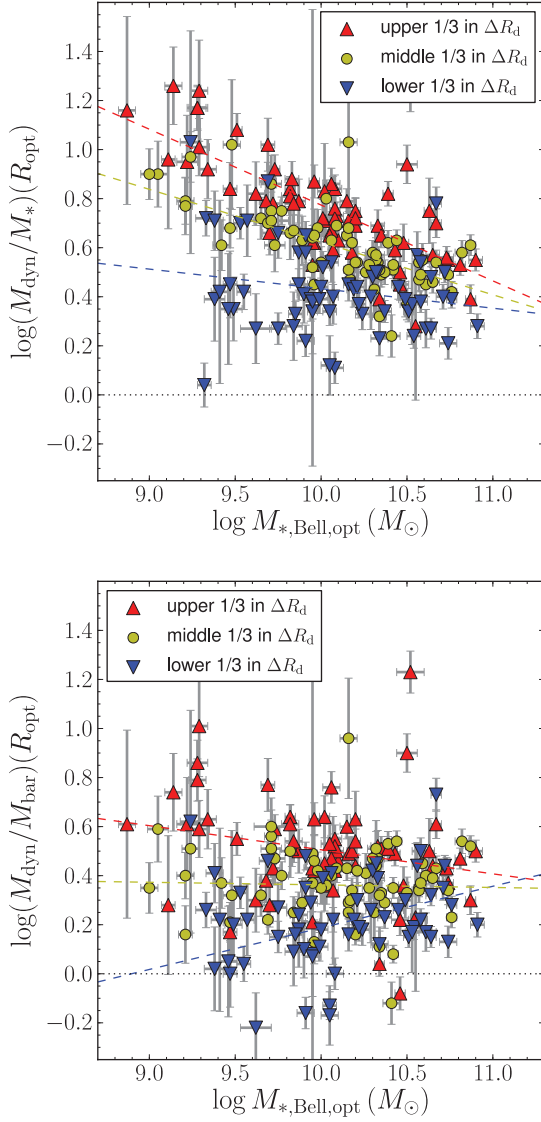
Now, looking at  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$ , we find the same dependence on disc size, at a fixed  $M_{\star,\text{opt}}$ , seen in the corresponding relation for  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  (bottom and top panels of Fig. 31). The relation between  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  and  $R_{80}$  is actually tighter than the corresponding relation with  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  (bottom and top panel of Fig. 32); in particular, at fixed  $R_{80}$ , the trend with stellar mass present in  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  is not present in  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$ .

We find that  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  is roughly constant with stellar mass, at a fixed  $\Delta R_d$ , unlike  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$ . This is a direct consequence of the sign and size of the trend of increasing gas mass fraction as stellar mass decreases (see Fig. 7). For the full child disc sample, the mean value of  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}} \approx 2.6$ , which corresponds to a 44 per cent baryon contribution to the mass inside  $R_{80}$ . Taking these baryonic masses at face value (i.e. assuming that the gas and stars have the same spatial extent), maximal discs (i.e. with  $M_{\text{dyn,opt}} = M_{\text{bar,opt}}$ ) require a non-uniform increase in the IMF normalization varying from  $\sim 0.4$  dex (for the highest  $M_{\star}$  galaxies) to  $\sim 0.9$  dex (for the lowest  $M_{\star}$  galaxies); the amounts are larger for the low-mass galaxies because they have higher gas mass fractions and the photometrically derived gas masses are unaffected by changes in the IMF.

The scatter in  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  at fixed  $M_{\star,\text{opt}}$  is smallest at the highest  $M_{\star}$  end, as is the case for  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$ . The measured scatter in  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  is 0.23 dex for the full sample, and 0.22, 0.15 and 0.21 dex for the bottom, middle and top bins in disc size offsets, respectively (Table 16).

<sup>25</sup> This result is more apparent here than in fig. 6 of Pizagno et al. (2005) because of the addition of newly observed galaxies with low stellar masses and small discs in our sample.

<sup>26</sup> Since  $M_{\star,\text{MPA}}$  is systematically lower than  $M_{\star,\text{Bell}}$ , except at the highest mass end (cf. Fig. 6 in Section 5.4.3), the inferred  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  would be correspondingly higher.

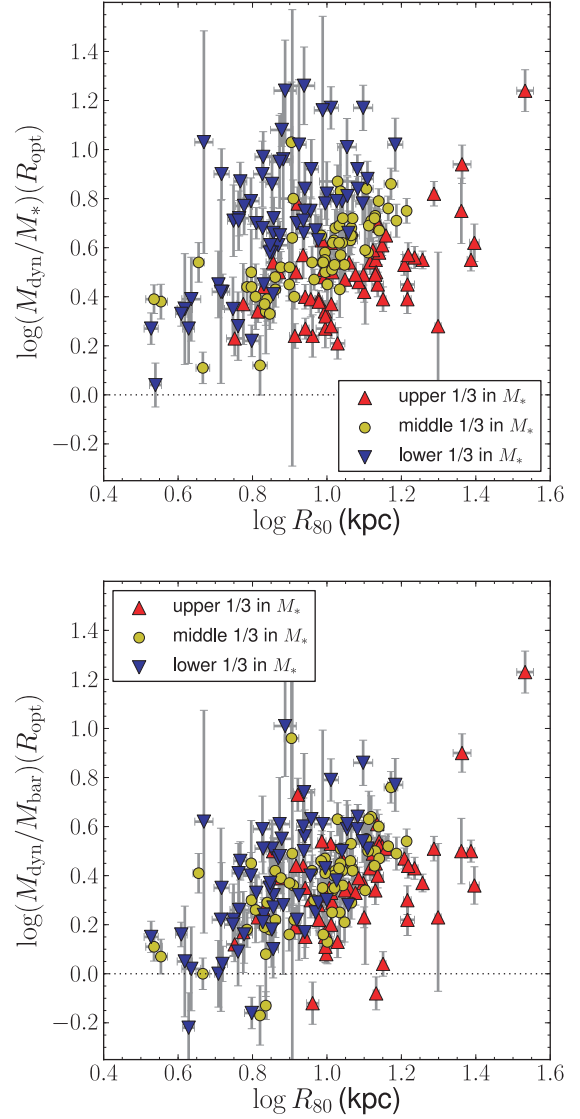


**Figure 31.** Relation between stellar masses within  $R_{80}$ ,  $M_{*,\text{opt}}$  and dynamical-to-stellar and dynamical-to-baryonic mass ratios within  $R_{80}$  (top and bottom panels, respectively). Different symbols correspond to bins in disc size offset  $\Delta R_d$  (red triangles, yellow circles blue inverted triangles for the upper, middle and lower bins, respectively).

The correlation of both  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)_{\text{opt}}$  and  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  with disc size at fixed stellar mass suggests that a combination of these two properties can lead to a tighter relation with  $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*$ . We confirm that the stellar surface density within  $R_{\text{opt}}$ ,  $\Sigma_{*,\text{opt}} = M_{*,\text{opt}}/(2\pi R_{\text{opt}}^2)$  forms a tighter relation with  $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*$  than either  $M_*$  or  $R_{\text{opt}}$  alone (Zavala et al. 2003; Pizagno et al. 2005).

The top panel of Fig. 33 shows the relation between  $\Sigma_{*,\text{opt}}$  and  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)_{\text{opt}}$  for the child disc sample. The best-fitting relation is shown by the dashed line and best-fitting parameters are listed in Table 16. The bottom panel of Fig. 33 shows the relation between the baryonic surface density within  $R_{80}$ ,  $\Sigma_{\text{bar,opt}} = \Sigma_{*,\text{opt}} \times (M_{\text{bar}}/M_*)$  and  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$ . As in Fig. 31, different symbols correspond to bins in disc size offsets  $\Delta R_d$  (red triangles, yellow circles and blue inverted triangles show upper, middle and lower bins, respectively).

Comparing the upper panels of Figs 31 and 33, we find that the smallest discs, which fall below the relation involving  $M_*$  move to



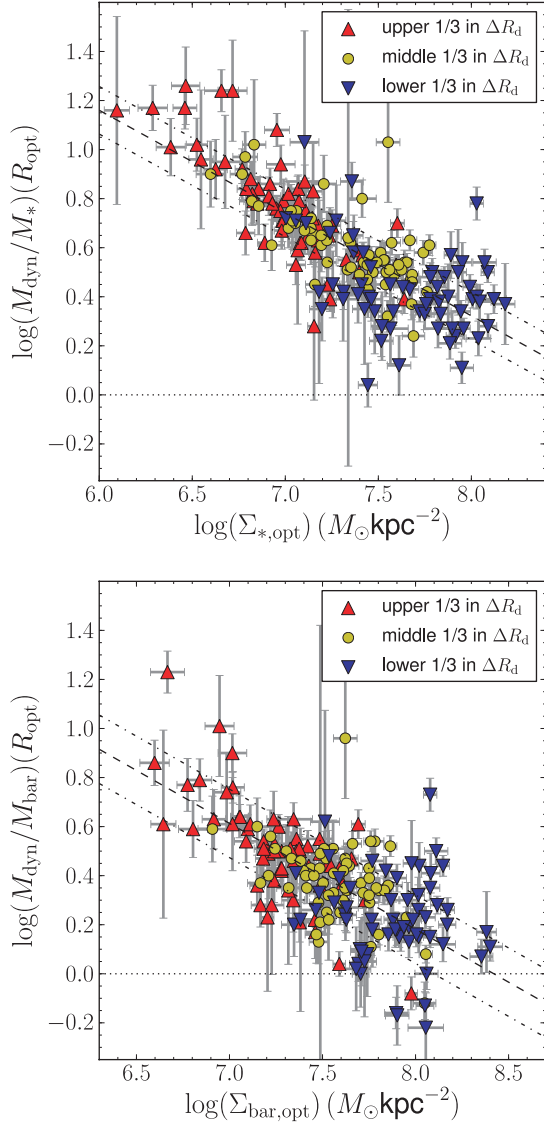
**Figure 32.** Relation between  $R_{80}$  and dynamical-to-stellar and dynamical-to-baryonic mass ratios within  $R_{80}$  (top and bottom panels, respectively). Different symbols correspond to bins in stellar mass  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  (red triangles, yellow circles blue inverted triangles for the upper, middle and lower bins, respectively).

the right (towards higher  $\Sigma_{*,\text{opt}}$ ) by an amount that places it roughly on the  $\Sigma_{*,\text{opt}}-(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)_{\text{opt}}$  relation defined by the larger discs.

The scatter in the  $\Sigma_{\text{bar,opt}}-(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  is comparable to the scatter in the  $\Sigma_{*,\text{opt}}-(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)_{\text{opt}}$  relation – equal to 0.18 and 0.15 dex, respectively. The trends in  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  with  $M_{*,\text{opt}}$  and  $R_{80}$  (lower panels of Figs 31 and 32) indicate that the tightness of its relation with  $\Sigma_{\text{bar,opt}}$  is almost entirely driven by its dependence on disc size, rather than stellar mass. This observation has important consequences for our interpretation of these trends in Section 12.4.

Finally, to look for the tightest possible relation for  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)_{\text{opt}}$ , we explore other combinations of the form  $M_{*,\text{opt}}/R_{\text{opt}}^\kappa$ , with the exponent  $\kappa$  treated as an additional free parameter. Maximum likelihood fits yield  $\kappa = 1.7 \pm 0.3$ , consistent with the definition of the stellar surface density (with  $\kappa = 2$ ). Therefore, we conclude that the stellar surface density is, indeed, a near-optimal photometric tracer of  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)_{\text{opt}}$ .





**Figure 33.** Top panel: relation between the dynamical-to-stellar mass ratio  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*)_{\text{opt}}$  and stellar surface density within the optical radius  $R_{80}$ ,  $\Sigma_{*,\text{opt}}$ . Bottom panel: relation between the dynamical-to-baryonic mass ratio  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  and baryonic surface density within the optical radius  $R_{80}$ ,  $\Sigma_{\text{bar,opt}}$ . In both panels, red triangles, yellow circles and blue inverted triangles show upper, middle and lower bins in disc size offset  $\Delta R_d$ , respectively. The dashed line shows the best-fitting linear relation for the full sample and dot-dashed lines are displaced from this relation by  $\pm\sigma$  to show the amount of intrinsic scatter.

## 12 SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION

### 12.1 Methodology

Our sample selection and methodology are dictated by our primary goal of obtaining photometric estimates of disc rotation velocity for a large sample of galaxies with imaging data. To achieve this goal, we construct a TFR sample of 189 galaxies that is a fair subsample of a well-defined parent disc sample of  $\sim 170\,000$  galaxies from the SDSS (Section 3).

To derive robust TFRs, we use rotation velocity amplitudes  $V_{80}$  defined at  $R_{80}$ , the radius containing 80 per cent of the  $i$ -band galaxy light and approximately at the peak of the total (disc+DM halo) rotation curve for typical disc galaxies and their haloes (cf. Sec-

tions 6.5.3 and 9.1). We calculate and account for systematic errors in  $V_{80}$ , in addition to statistical errors, to downweight the contribution of those few galaxies with peculiar rotation curves to the TFR fits. We perform weighted fits to the TFR to account for the small difference between the SMFs of the TFR and parent disc samples; however, in practice, the two are similar enough that the weights do not significantly affect the fits.

### 12.2 Tests of systematics

We find that the TFR is robust to many systematic effects, including slit misalignments (Section 6.5.1), differences in observing instruments and conditions (Section 6.5.2), differences in analysis pipelines (i.e. the rotation curve extraction and fitting methods and bulge–disc decomposition fits, which differ between this work and P07) (Sections 6.5.3 and 9.5) and differences in sample selection (i.e. between this work and P07) (Sections 9.2 and 9.5). We also verify that our internal extinction corrections successfully remove the weak correlation between disc axial ratios  $q_d$  and velocity residuals from the (uncorrected)  $M_i^{\text{NC}}$  ITFR (Section 10.1). This indicates that even if they are uncertain on a galaxy-per-galaxy basis, they are adequate for the TFR sample on average.

While there are many other potential sources of systematics that we have not explicitly tested for, we note that the observed small scatter in the TFR – 0.056 dex of the total scatter in  $\log V_{80}$ , corresponding to 0.20 dex in  $\log M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  or 0.5 mag in  $M_i$  – itself serves as an upper bound for their contribution. We find that the expected additional sources of scatter (e.g. intrinsic disc ellipticities) can explain essentially all of the observed scatter in the TFR, regardless of whether our measurement errors were overestimated (cf. Section 7.3). The disc-dominated sample yields an even smaller total TFR scatter of 0.05 dex in  $\log V_{80}$ , corresponding to 0.18 dex in  $\log M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  (or 0.44 in magnitude units). For comparison, previous TFR studies based on pruned samples of spirals (for distance indicator work) found a range of observed total scatter from  $\sim 0.3$  to 0.4 mag (Strauss & Willick 1995, and references therein).

### 12.3 Optimal estimator of disc rotation velocity

One of the primary aims of this work is to identify and calibrate an optimal estimator of disc rotation velocity, i.e. one with minimal scatter in its ITFR. We confirm that the use of redder bands (Strauss & Willick 1995) or the addition of colour information (Kannappan et al. 2002), yield tighter ITFRs. It is interesting to note that  $M_{\text{syn}}(\lambda, g-r)$  for different bands yielded not only ITFRs with the identical scatter, but almost identical slopes and zero-points as well. We note that  $M_{\text{syn}}$  can be interpreted as an extrapolation to some redder (i.e. infrared) band, which traces stellar mass better than any single optical band. We also find that the best-fitting coefficients  $\alpha$  for the colour terms in  $M_{\text{syn}}(\lambda, g-r)$  are consistent with the corresponding coefficients  $\alpha^{\text{Bell}}$  from the  $M_*/L$  fitting formulae of Bell et al. (2003) (cf. Table 9). Then, in Section 10.2, we explicitly show that almost all of the correlation between  $g-r$  colour and velocity residuals from the  $M_i$  ITFR can be attributed to, and hence removed by, the colour dependence of the stellar mass-to-light ratio,  $M_*/L_i \propto (g-r)^{0.86}$ .

Ultimately, we choose  $M_{*,\text{Bell}}$  to be our optimal estimator since it has a natural physical interpretation (unlike  $M_{\text{syn}}$ ) and is straightforward to calculate (unlike  $M_{*,\text{MPA}}$ ). We find (cf. Table 10 and



Fig. 20):

$$\log V_{80}(M_{\star, \text{Bell}}) = (2.142 \pm 0.004) + (0.278 \pm 0.010) \times (\log M_{\star, \text{Bell}} - 10.102), \quad (39)$$

with an intrinsic Gaussian scatter  $\tilde{\sigma} = 0.036 \pm 0.005$  in  $\log V_{80}$  (using a Kroupa IMF to define  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$ ). The associated uncertainty in this estimate is given by the measured scatter in the ITFR,  $\sigma_{\text{meas}} = 0.056$  dex.

Pruning the galaxy sample to include only disc-dominated galaxies is another way to obtain a tighter ITFR. We show in Section 9.4 that removing galaxies with  $D/T \leq 0.9$  yields a tighter  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  ITFR. We note that pruning a large imaging data set with many fainter and smaller galaxies than those in our sample is nontrivial, but worth investigating.

## 12.4 Relative contributions of stars and DM

The question of the relative contribution of stars and DM in the optical regions of disc galaxies remains unresolved. Observed rotation curves only weakly constrain the relative contributions of the different components: stellar and gas discs, bulge and DM halo. To disentangle these components, we assume a fixed stellar IMF, then infer stellar and gas masses based on the galaxy luminosities and colours. We use our observations to confirm several known trends and point out interesting new ones that will help constrain the possible scenarios. In future work, we will aim to construct disc galaxy models that reproduce these observations.

In Section 10.3, we study correlations between velocity residuals from the  $M_{\star}$  ITFR and disc size offsets  $\Delta R_d$  for the child disc sample divided into three bins in  $M_{\star}$  (Fig. 29). We find that the lowest stellar mass galaxies show a positive correlation between TFR residuals and disc size offsets, suggesting that they have a dominant NFW DM halo. Moreover, the sign of the correlation changes from positive to negative towards increasing stellar mass, suggesting a progression towards an increasing contribution of the stellar disc. (Recall that a pure NFW DM halo yields a slope of  $+0.5$ , while a pure exponential disc yields a slope of  $-0.5$ .)

In Section 11, we use stellar mass estimates  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  and baryonic mass estimates  $M_{\text{bar}}$  (defined in Sections 5.4 and 5.5, respectively) with a fixed Kroupa IMF to calculate dynamical-to-stellar and dynamical-to-baryonic mass ratios within  $R_{80}$ ,  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  and  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$ , respectively. We find that  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  decreases from  $\approx 10$  to 3 as  $M_{\star, \text{Bell}}$  increases from  $10^9$  to  $10^{11} M_{\odot}$  (top panel of Fig. 31). This trend of an increasing (decreasing) contribution of stars (DM) to the potential on optical scales as stellar mass increases is consistent with that indicated by the size residual correlations.

On the other hand, because low  $M_{\star}$  galaxies have higher gas mass fractions than high  $M_{\star}$  galaxies,  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  is roughly constant with stellar mass, with a mean of 2.6 and s.d. of 0.23 dex (bottom panel of Fig. 31). Blanton, Geha & West (2008) found a similar result from a sample of isolated dwarf galaxies with luminosities  $M_r - 5 \log h = -14$  to  $-21.5$  mag. At face value, it seems that this finding is inconsistent with the observed dependence of the sign of the size residual correlations on stellar mass (Section 10.3). However, recall that we have not taken into account the difference in the spatial distributions of the gas and the stars. In fact,  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  and  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  bracket the more realistic scenario, in which only some fraction of the gas mass is within the optical radius. We defer detailed analysis and discussion to a future paper where we will present and analyse the radial galaxy profiles.

Panels of Fig. 31 clearly show that the scatter in both  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  and  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\text{bar}})_{\text{opt}}$  at fixed stellar mass is driven by differences in

disc sizes: larger discs tend to have higher values in both ratios. As a consequence, both ratios form tighter relations with stellar (or baryonic) surface density than with stellar mass or disc size alone (Zavala et al. 2003; Pizagno et al. 2005). In the disc galaxy models of Firmani & Avila-Reese (2000), the observed tight trend of  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  with  $\Sigma_{\star, \text{opt}}$  arises from a correlation of star formation efficiency with surface density.<sup>27</sup> Here, we propose an alternative explanation: the observed variation in  $(M_{\text{dyn}}/M_{\star})_{\text{opt}}$  with disc size is actually tracing the slope of the (average) total mass profile of disc galaxies at these radii. In our own disc galaxy models, we will show that the observed trends are reproduced even if the disc mass fraction is independent of disc size or stellar surface density (Reyes et al., in preparation).

The reason this happens, qualitatively, is that if we assume a fixed DM halo for a given disc (ignoring realistic variation due to, e.g., scatter in halo concentration at fixed mass), then the larger discs will necessarily have more DM within  $R_{80}$ . This assumption is not necessarily true – it is possible, for example, that a disc that is larger or smaller than the typical size for its stellar mass would have a different effect on the DM halo density profile. Our results suggest that such a correlation between DM halo profile modifications and disc size at fixed  $M_{\star}$  are not of the right sign, or sufficient magnitude, to cause a deviation from our naive expectation that the disc size simply modulates how much of the DM the gas in the disc ‘sees.’

## 12.5 Applications to future work

The calibrated TFRs presented here can be used for a variety of purposes: for estimating disc rotation velocities for large photometric samples, connecting galaxies with their DM haloes, and studying models of galaxy formation and evolution. As mentioned above, we will use these observations to construct and constrain models of disc galaxy formation. In another paper, we will constrain  $V_{\text{rot}}/V_{\text{vir}}$  as a function of stellar mass, using our calibrated ITFR to determine  $V_{\text{rot}}$ , and weak-lensing measurements to determine  $V_{\text{vir}}$ . As discussed in Section 1, this measurement constrains the shape of the total mass profile, and can potentially indicate whether baryons have modified the gravitational potential well, in which sense, and by how much.

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<sup>27</sup> This has, in fact, motivated disc galaxy models in which the disc mass fraction (the ratio of the stellar mass to the total halo mass) is dependent on  $\Sigma_{\star, \text{opt}}$  (e.g. Gnedin et al. 2007).

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## APPENDIX A:

In this Appendix, we derive the relation between the dynamical-to-stellar mass ratio within a radius  $R$  ( $M_{\text{dyn}}/M_*(R)$ ) and the observed rotation velocity at that radius  $V_{\text{rot}}$  (equation 36). First, we consider an idealized galaxy model with two components: an exponential stellar disc and an NFW DM halo (we neglect the bulge for now, for simplicity). The disc has an infinitesimal thickness, scalelength

$R_d$ , central surface mass density  $\Sigma_0$  and a surface mass density distribution,  $\Sigma_d(R) = \Sigma_0 \exp(-R/R_d)$ . The mass interior to  $R$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} M_d(R) &= 2\pi\Sigma_0 R_d^2 [1 - \exp(-R/R_d)(1 + R/R_d)] \\ &\equiv 2\pi\Sigma_0 R_d^2 \mathcal{F}(R/R_d), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A1})$$

and the rotation curve  $V_{c,d}(R)$  is given by (Freeman 1970)

$$\begin{aligned} V_{c,d}^2(R) &= 4\pi G \Sigma_0 R_d y^2 [I_0(y)K_0(y) - I_1(y)K_1(y)] \\ &\equiv 4\pi G \Sigma_0 R_d \mathcal{B}(y), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A2})$$

where  $y \equiv R/(2R_d)$ ,  $G = 4.3012 \times 10^{-6}$  is the gravitational constant in units of  $\text{kpc} (\text{km s}^{-1})^2 M_\odot^{-1}$ , and  $I_i(y)$  and  $K_i(y)$  are the modified Bessel functions of the first and second kinds. The disc rotation curve will peak at  $R_{\text{disc,max}} = 2.15R_d$  and the peak velocity is about 15 per cent higher than that of a spherical mass distribution with the same interior mass.

The NFW halo has an interior mass  $M_{\text{NFW}}(R)$  and a rotation curve  $V_{c,\text{NFW}}(R)$ . If one (incorrectly) assumed that the observed (i.e. total) rotation velocity  $V_{\text{rot}}$  arises from a spherical mass distribution, one would infer a dynamical mass  $M_{\text{sph}}$  interior to  $R$  given by

$$M_{\text{sph}}(R) \equiv \frac{R V_{\text{rot}}^2(R)}{G} = \frac{R (V_{c,\text{NFW}}^2 + V_{c,d}^2)}{G} \quad (\text{A3})$$

$$= M_{\text{NFW}}(R) + \mathcal{K}(R/R_d) M_d(R), \quad (\text{A4})$$

where we have introduced a geometric correction factor

$$\mathcal{K}(R/R_d) \equiv \frac{V_{c,d}^2(R)}{V_{c,d,\text{sph}}^2(R)} = \frac{4\pi G \Sigma_0 R_d \mathcal{B}(y)}{G M_d(R)/R} \quad (\text{A5})$$

$$= \frac{4\pi G \Sigma_0 R_d \mathcal{B}(y)}{2\pi G \Sigma_0 R_d^2 \mathcal{F}(R/R_d)/R} \quad (\text{A6})$$

$$= \frac{2\mathcal{B}(y)}{\mathcal{F}(R/R_d)} \frac{R}{R_d}. \quad (\text{A7})$$

Here,  $V_{c,d,\text{sph}}$  is the rotation curve for a spherical mass distribution with the same interior mass as the exponential disc, and  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are functions defined in equations (A1) and (A2), respectively. We find that  $\mathcal{K}$  peaks at around  $\sim 3R_d$ , with a value of 1.3, and then falls off slowly and asymptotes to 1. For  $R/R_d = 2.2$ ,  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{K}) = (0.645, 0.1935, 1.319)$ ; for  $R/R_d = 3$ , the values are  $(0.8009, 0.1795, 1.345)$ .

The dynamical-to-stellar mass ratio is therefore related to its ‘spherical’ counterpart by

$$\frac{M_{\text{dyn}}(R)}{M_d(R)} = 1 + \frac{M_{\text{NFW}}(R)}{M_d(R)} \quad (\text{A8})$$

$$= \frac{M_{\text{sph}}(R)}{M_d(R)} + \left[ 1 - \mathcal{K} \left( \frac{R}{R_d} \right) \right]. \quad (\text{A9})$$

In other words, if one assumes a spherical mass distribution, one would falsely attribute a larger dynamical mass to the stellar disc, and therefore overestimate the total-to-stellar mass ratio by a constant additive term  $\mathcal{K}(R/R_d) - 1 \approx 0.3$  for  $R/R_d$  values between 2 and 3.

We now generalize the above results for a model galaxy with an additional bulge component. Since the bulge mass distribution is approximately spherical, it can be lumped together with the halo mass in equation (A4). Defining  $M_{\text{star}} \equiv M_d + M_{\text{bulge}}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{M_{\text{dyn}}(R)}{M_{\text{star}}(R)} &= \frac{[M_{\text{NFW}}(R) + M_{\text{bulge}}(R)] + M_d(R)}{M_{\text{star}}(R)} \\ &= \frac{M_{\text{sph}}(R)}{M_{\text{star}}(R)} \\ &\quad + \left( \frac{M_d(R)}{M_{\text{star}}(R)} \right) \times \left[ 1 - \mathcal{K} \left( \frac{R}{R_d} \right) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A10})$$

In practice, we adopt the radius  $R = R_{80}$  and  $M_d(R_{80})/M_{\text{star}}(R_{80}) = (D/T)_{80}$ , the disc-to-total light ratio interior to  $R_{80}$  (equation 37). The correction is suppressed in galaxies with significant bulges, because the contribution of the disc is smaller than what was assumed when all the light was attributed to the disc.

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Additional Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this article.

**Table 1.** Basic properties of the 189 galaxies in the child disc sample.

**Table 3.** Best-fit parameters from i-band B+D fits for 189 galaxies in the child disc sample.

**Table 4.** Observations with DIS at APO 3.5m (95 galaxies).

**Table 5.** Rotation curve fit parameters and rotation velocity amplitudes for the child disc sample (189 galaxies).

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